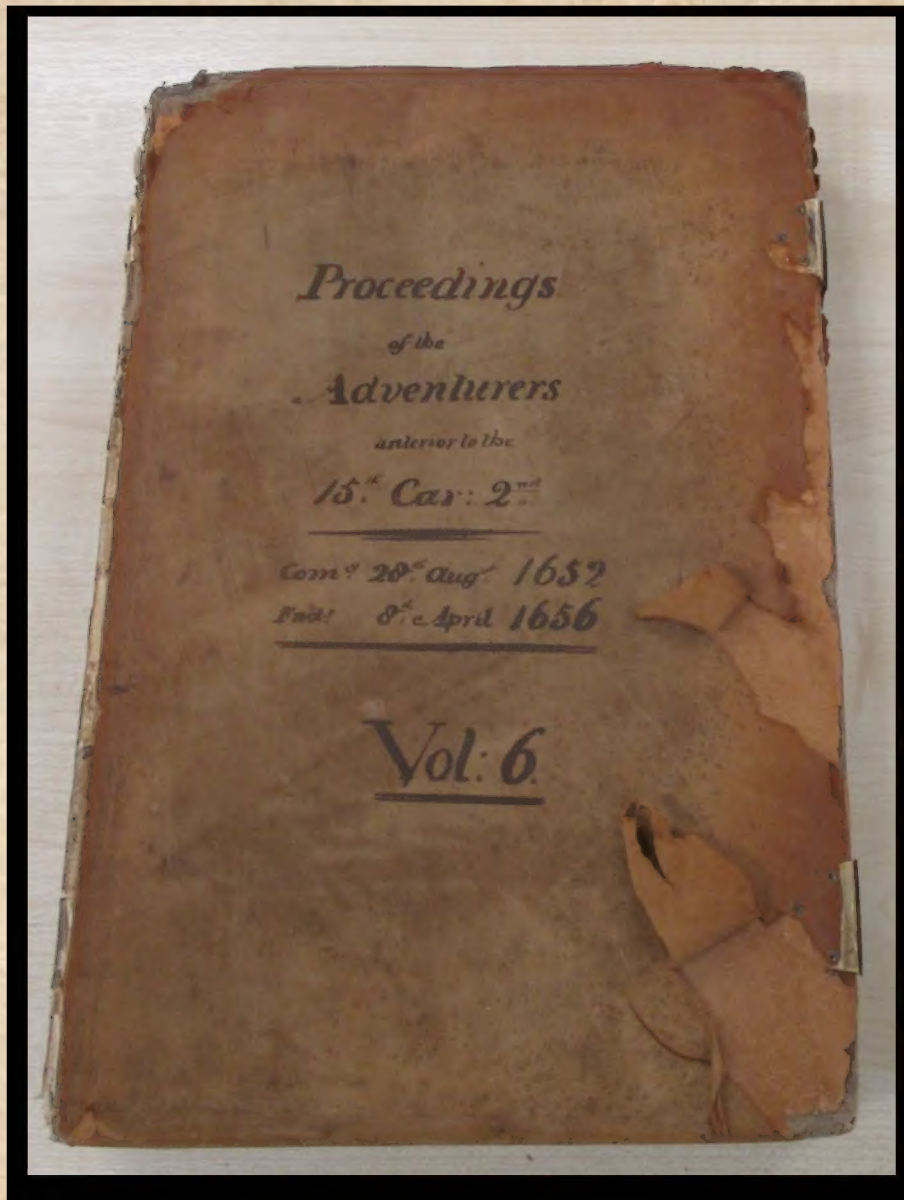


The Adventurers: A new exploration of the archives

Transcription of Volume 6 by Peter Daldorph



Preface

This document is a full transcription of the *Proceedings of the Adventures* for the period August 1652 to May 1656. The original document is held by the Cambridgeshire Archives in Ely (Reference: KBLC/2/1/6).

The entries are ordered by date and paragraph number for each date. Where possible the original spelling has been retained except in a few cases where the meaning of the word would be hard to distinguish by a modern reader. Modern punctuation has, however, been added to make the text more readable (comma and full stops).

Entries in bold – e.g. **[Page 3]** show the original page numbers.

The transcription was funded the National Heritage Lottery Fund (Project reference number: NS-21-00172)

The transcription was carried out by Peter Daldorph

Date	No	Text
28/08/52	1	Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barr in the County of Middlessex Earle of Bedford, Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Trenchard, Captain Blackwall, Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Underwood, Mr Walker, Mr Thurloe, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Oxenbridge, Mr Downinge, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Culpeper, Mr Jessop, Mr Naylor
28/08/52	2	[Page 1] The Companie, takinge into consideration the present condition of the levell on the north side of Bedford River and the workes designed and begun thereupon, doe finde that the severall orders of the Companie made on that behalfe, as well the last somer as this, have not byn observed and executed with effecte but, on the contrary, endeavor have byn used to retard and invalid the same by settinge on foote workes on the south side without and against order of the Companie, which by the full and unanimous consent of the whole Companie were to bee taken in hand onely in subordination to the workes on the north side and as the same might consist therewith. As judginge it much more for the interest and good of the Companie to secure and improve that part allready adjudged dreynd then to engage to farr upon the southside with hazards to the other, upon which reasons the Companie upon many debates this somer resolved not to proceede upon the south side untill they had certaine assurance that the workes on the northside were completed farther than an order the the navigation of Cambridge. And afterwards upon a proposition made by Mr Hamond to finish the whole dreyning in the southside with £2500 onely, the Companie, upon condition that the whole workes should bee perfected with £2500 and the Companie put no other charge about the same more than the said £2500, which Sir Cornelius Vermuden, then present, did affirme would complete that workes and make it fitt for adjudication, [Page 2] were willinge to consent there unto with expresse direction to the comptroller and expeditor not to expend any one penny more then the said £2500 upon the south side which they confirmed by severall orders since. And for a further supply of money another tax was sett upon the first of July last, after which the Companie (<i>nemiane contradicte</i>) gave expresse order to the comptroller not to expend above the said sum of £2500, notwithstandinge all which the workes on the north side are not onely yet undone, and thereby that levell left in hazard, but the Company finde some orders lately made in the Country whereby some of those workes not onely designed by the director but confirmed by many orders of the Companie are suspended and put of, and the sum of £5000, which is the greatest part part of the money now in the treasury or due upon taxes, applied to the south side (whereas the Companie were made believe that the sum of £2500 would finish that whole worke), and thereby the workes on the north side rendered impossible to bee proceeded in, and the Companie charged with the sum of £2500 more for the workes on the south side then was ever mentioned by the director, all which the Companie, now present, taking into consideration, and being very sensible how much it impacts the Companie and its interest to serve and improveth the north levell, are much unsatisfyed that the charge of fittinge the southside for adjudication amounts to double the some which was proposed unto them as well by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Hamond (whereof yet they doe not understand the cause), doe hereby order that the order of the 16th of August 1652, made at the Bell att Elie, whereby the workes for carryinge on the downfall on the south levell were ordered to be speedily and effectually taken in hand and proceeded in, and another order of the same date, whereby the expeditor may issue warrant for dreyninge the southside not exceedinge £5000, including £2500 allready directed, and the workes on the north

side touchinge the cutt through Marshland, the sluice for plant water, the highway from Bevills Leame to Ramsey and the stoppes, gravells and dams under March bridge and in March towne be forborne, and also another order to the same purpose of the same date, and an order of the 14th August 1652 that the workes on the south side of Bedford River bee effectually proceeded in, and also the order of Peterburgh of 20th August 1652 for despositinge a 1/5 5 d tax in the handes of Sir Raph Hare and Mr Gawsell for makeinge a cutt through Maryland, bee revoked and made void to all intents and purposes. And it is hereby further ordered that Waldersea bancke shall bee with all speede taken care of and repayred accordinge to such directions as are given by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, the stoppes, dams and gravells in March river from the mouth of Whittlesea Mere unto that part of Pophams Eau, which is lately opened, bee removed and taken away in such manner that those places, where such stoppes, dams and gravells are, may hold proportion in depth to other parts of the river. That the dreyne from Honey Hards to Well, as also Pophams Eau bee finished accordinge to former direction, that there shall bee a cutt and dreyne through Marshland for ventinge the downfall of the north levell, which dreyne is to bee made in such places and of such dimensions as have byn formerly designed, or shall bee designed by such persons as the Companie shall appoint to manage that worke, and two or more sluices to bee set upon the said dreyne, that the north dike of Bedford River bee so sufficiently bottomed as it may be able to vent the water from Vermudens Eau, or elsewhere, and also that Moores dreyne, and part of Bevills Leame from Shawes dike unto the overtoes upon the south banke of Moreton's Leame, bee deepened in such manner as may bee sufficient to carry the water of the levell apperteyninge there unto, which they now are not able to doe. And also that all other workes heretofore ordered to bee made on the northside bee effectually proceeded in except the dam to bee made over the river Neane at the head of Vermuden's Eau which hereby is ordered to be suspended untill the Companie bee satisfyed of the usefullnes thereof, and the comptroller for the tyme beinge is hereby ordered to issue out warrants for making payment upon the said workes in such manner as hee is to issue out warrants by his former instructions. And the expeditor is enjoyned to pay the same accordingly. And whereas the Aventurers and Participants, now present, are owners of 30000 acres parcell of the 95000 acres att the least, it is further unanimously agreed, ordered and assented to that this order shall not be altered revoked suspended of impeached but by so many of the Adventurers and Participants are are owners of 55000 acres parcell of the said 95000 acres at the least.

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| 28/08/52 | 3 | Whereupon the Companie have upon their meeting today appointed severall workes to bee made on the northside for the effectual carryinge on the same without any delay, they doe hereby order Edmund Welsh and Anthony Ringwood to take all possible care to see the bancke of Waldersea repayred in such manner as Sir Cornelius Vermuyden directed. And it is referred to Mr Parsons and Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond to oversee the said workes - that the same may bee finished in due tyme. And that the said Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond and Mr Parsons are hereby authorized and ordered, with advice of Mr Jonas Moore, to sett out the dreyne designed or to bee designed to bee carryed through Marshland and to see [Page 3] the same lockspitted, which being done, they are to lett forthwith and make contracts, as well for the spade works as for the sluice to sett thereupon, which contracts being confirmed by Mr Hamond or the other superintendents, which shall bee valid and binding to the Companie. And the comptroller is from tyme to tyme to issue out warrants for paies to bee made upon the said worke which warrants the expeditor is to observe accordingly, and the said Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond and Mr Parsons are to advice with Sir Rafe Hare and Mr Cawsell in doinge the said worke |
| 28/08/52 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Jonas Moore and Anthony Ringwood, or one of them, doe forthwith lett out the removing of dams, stoppes and gravell from Whittlesea Mere to that part |

of Pophams Eau which was lately opened, in such manner that the places where such stoppes are may hold proportion in depth with the rest of the river, and to make contracts for the same, which being confirmed by one of the superintendents, shall be valid, and a copie of such contracts is to bee left with Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood who is desired to see the same performed effectually, espetially from Whittlese Mere unto March towne. And Mr Moore is to see the other part thereof effectually done, as also Moores dreyne and that part of Bevills Leam from Shawe dike to the overtoe upon the south banke of Moretons Leame, which are hereby ordered to bee opened and deepened sufficiently, and warrants and payments are to bee made and issued for the comptroller and expendor upon the said workes

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| 28/08/52 | 5 | Whereas the Companie is enformed that the dreyne from Honey to Well and also Pophams Eau is not yet finished, they doe desire Lieutenantt Colonell Dymond to undertake the care thereof, to see the same perfected and, to that purpose, is hereby authorized to give such directions concerninge the same as shall bee conducing thereunto, and perticulerly for sessing and makinge it bancke wise, in regard the earth that is cast out of the said dreyne now lyes ready to fall back again. And that the bookes of the contracts bee delivered to the said Lieutenant Dymond. And the same Lieutenant Colonell Dymond is desired to examyn under whose care this was to bee done and whether it bee done accordinge to contracte, if not then through whose default, and thereof to certifie the Companie. |
| 28/08/52 | 6 | The Companie, having taken into consideration the old dreyne called Bedford dreyne, doe finde that the same from Welshes Dam downwards is insufficient to carry away the water out of Vermuydens Eau and from other places to the outfall, doe order that the same bee scowred out and made sufficient in such places as is necessary, and the doinge and setting forth the same is referred to the care of Mr Drewry who is desired to see the same done accordingly. |
| 28/08/52 | 7 | Ordered that Lieutenant Colonell Underwood, Mr John Turner and Mr Richard Kendall, or two of them, doe forthwith take a view of the Sheyre Dreyne as it conduces to the dreyninge of the north levell without consideration had of Porland or the northside of Wisbich, and consider what is fitt further to bee done for the perfectinge thereof. And if they finde it insufficient then to take order for the makinge thereof sufficient with all speede |
| 28/08/52 | 8 | The Companie, havinge taken into consideration the former orders of the Companie that noe sum above the £2500 was to bee issued upon the workes on the southside, doe hereby confirme the same and doe further order that noe contracts for any workes in the south side shall bee made for any sum over and above the sum of £2500 with what hath byn allready expended thereupon, and that the comptroller or comptrollers for the tyme beinge doe issue out noe warrants for any greater sum then the said £2500 upon the said workes as aforesaid, nor the expendor make day payments whatsoever upon the workes on the south side then as aforesaid untill the Companie take further order, the Companie declaringe that they shall not allow any other payments. And to the ende that the expendor may the better know how to observe this order, the contracts of such workes, as have byn contracted for on the south side, are to bee left with the expendor, and thereof Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, the superintendents, the contractors and all other officers and ministers imployed by the Companie are to take notice and observed the same. |
| 28/08/52 | 9 | Wee, whose names are here under written, beinge appointed of the comptroll, havinge taken into consideration the makinge of a cutt through Marshland for the better dreyninge of a very great part of the Levell on the north side of Bedford River, and also of the takinge away the dams, stoppes and gravell in the River of Neane from |

the mouth of Whittlesea Mere unto that part of Pophams Eau which is lately opened there, are of opinion that there is a necessity for the better dreyninge of the said levell, that the cutt through Marshland bee forthwith made and the stoppes, gravells and dams under March bridge and otherwhere in the River of March from Whittlesey Mere unto Pophams Eau, aforesaid, bee taken away and deepened to hold proportion with the other parts of the river. Wee have also considered the dam designed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to bee made over Neane at the head of Vermudens Eau, and are of opinion that Vermudens Eau, beinge a very imperfect worke, will not carry the mere and other waters without oppressing all the Country above if that dam should bee made, and therefore doe order that the makinge of the aforesaid dam be forborne untill the comptroll bee better satisfied therein, given under our handes this 25th August 1652

William Bedford
Robert Castell
Oliver St John
Robert Henley Snr
John Latch

- 28/08/52 10 **[Page 4]** To the ende the severall orders of this daie for carrying on the workes of dreyninge may bee surely delivered to the persons therein respectively and put into array of effectual execution, it is ordered that a letter, with copies of the said orders enclosed, bee sent to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden with the Companies desire that hee will not pursue or directe anything which may impeach the same, other letters (with severall copies enclosed) to Mr Hamond and Mr Latch to desire theire promotinge the said severall orders to an effectual execution, another letter to Lieutenant Colonell Francis Underwood with copies of such of the said orders as relate to his imployment as expeditor, as also severall letters to Mr Drewry, to Lieutenant Colonell Raymond and Mr Parsons, to Lieutenant Colonell Dyamond, to Mr Turner and Richard Kendall, to Mr Moore the surveyour, to the clarke of the contractes, to Edmund Welsh and Anthonie Ringwood, with copies of the orders to them referring respectively, desiringe from each of them speedy and effectuall execution of what is thereby comended to them severally, the speedy and most advantageous dispatch of which letters this night is comended to the care of Mr Thurloe, Mr Walker and Mr Jessop or any two of them. And whereas, upon the Companies motion to Mr Downing, a member of the Companie, the said Mr Downing hath declared his willingness to repayre to the levell with a duplicate of the said orders, it is desired that hee will so dispose his journey as to be att March of Wednesday night next cominge, at which tyme and place Mr Latch, Mr Hamond and the rest to whome these letters are to bee sent, as aforesaid, are to bee desired to give a meetinge to the ende they may consider of the said severall orders and resolve together of carryinge on the respective services, thereby designed them, with most advantage and expedition, and thereupon certifie the Companie, under theire handes, of the course by them determyned in theire behalfe and of the orders by them sent. And for theire better information and assistance, the said members of the Companie and others, so mett, may send for any officers of the Companie to attend them in order to the performance of the said resolutions. And at the said meeting, Mr Downing is desired to read the said severall orders concerninge them respectively and come to theire severall handes, and for the purpose aforesaid the clarke of the Companie is to deliver to Mr Downing a duplicate of all orders aforesaid, together with a copie hereof, which several orders were sent accordingly
- 02/09/52 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Trenchard, Mr William Weston, Mr St John, Mr Jessop, Mr Thurloe, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Walker, Mr Page, Mr Browne, Mr B Weston

- 02/09/52 2 The Companie, understandinge that the bridge over Downham Eau att Stow Comon was not yet sett downe and that Sir Rafe Hare was much prejudiced, thereby have thought fitt to write a letter to him as followeth
- Sir - Being informed that you except against the not settinge of a bridge over Downham Eau att Stow Comon, wee thought it necessary to advertise you that the Companie of Adventurers enjoyed the doinge thereof by their order of 2nd June last and that, as the delaying thereof is contrary to their sense and intention, so they have now renewed direction to their agents below for the speedy performinge of that service and have required an account from them why the same hath byn so long deferred, not doubtinge but this will give you satisfaction in this behalfe - for the present wee rest
- Your very affectionate friends to serve you, Oliver St John, Edward Partherich, Mr Thurloe, Mr Parsons, Mr St John, John Walker, Mr Say
- 02/09/52 3 Sir - the Companie were this daie informed that the bridge is not yet sett downe over Downham Eau att Stow Comon, although by order of the 28th June last the same was appointed to bee done, and therefore the Companie comanded mee to write unto you to have it speedily done and to know the reason why the same is not yet sett downe, it being expressly against the sense of the Companie that it hath byn so longe retarded, and this they thought fitt to signifie in a letter to Sir Rafe Hare himselfe
- 02/09/52 4 **[Page 5]** Ordered that Mr Sergeant Earle and Mr Latch bee deteyned of councill for the Companie, and they are each of them to have fortie shillings a yeare as a stadinge fee from the Companie
- 02/09/52 6 The Companie, taking into consideration the 5th lott and the arrere due upon the same, and also upon readinge the Articles of Agreement made between the Companie and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, it is thought fitt and ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to draw up the state of the case and a perticuler of what hath byn layd out and expended in and towards the workes of dreyninge, and distinguish the same to the perticulars in the said Articles mentioned, which, together with the Acte of Parliament and copies of the said Articles and other writings, are to be delivered to Mr Sergeant Earle and Mr Latch of councill for the Companie, whereupon they are desired to deliver their opinions whether the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is and ought not now to bee become contributory with the rest of the Adventurers towards the dreyninge, accordinge to the said Articles and the solicitor is to desire a day of meetinge may bee appointed forthwith
- 02/09/52 7 The Companie, takinge into consideration what money is in the treasury at present and also what is in arrere, ordered that a letter bee sent to Mr Latch the comptroller as followeth
- The Companie, havinge had some consideration this daie touchinge their treasure and taxes, to the ende they might know how to hold proportion with the workes designed, desire you to send them up a perticuler of the money hath byn issued since the 24th of July last, and likewise, send up how much of the £2500 is expended and layd out on the workes on the south side of Bedford River.
- 02/09/52 8 Ordered that Mr Drewry and Captain Cole of Sutton bee desired to take into their care the perfectinge of Hamonds Eau and the scowring it out towards the ende of this month, and also to take all other indreynes and devision dikes into their care that are betweene the high landes of Huntingdon and Vermudens Eau, that they bee

scowred out to their full depth, and that enquiry be made who had the same in charge, and due examination taken that so it may appear by whose default they have byn hitherto neglected

- 02/09/52 9 Ordered that Mr Jessop (notwithstanding former order) shall have free liberty to accept of such bills of exchange as shall be charged on him by the expeditor or his deputie, and to give the Companie and account at their meetinge on Thursdaie next how much money is charged on him
- 02/09/52 10 The Companie doe agree to meete again on Thursdaie next at 10 a clocke in the forenoone and then take into consideration Sir Cornelius Vermuydens designe of the workes to be done on the south side of Bedford River and likewise to consider of raising money for doinge thereof
- 09/09/52 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Page, Mr Gale, Mr Trafford, Mr Thurloe, Mr Walker, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Trenchard, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Coveny, Mr Downinge, Mr Andrew Henley
- 09/09/52 2 Ordered that severall letters be written to the agents of the Company now below, perticularly as followeth as to this effecte
- The Companie, amongst severall other letters, have received yours, which beinge read over, they comanded mee to signifie unto you their pleasure, that is they desire a vigorous and speedy perfection of the severall workes enjoined to be done in the northside of the Bedford River by their late orders sent downe, and to know of the perticuler persons to whose care those workes were recomended, how much and what is done, and how farre they have proceeded. Amongst whome, you are desired to send up an account by this bearer how many men are att worke upon that worke committed to your charge.
- 09/09/52 3 **[Page 6]** Memorand. This to be added to the letter to Mr Moore that surveyour.
- Sir - As to the latter parte of the order for a cutt through Marshland, wherein Sir Raffe Hare and Mr Gawsells advise is to be taken, the Companie doe now thinke fitt and agree that though eyther of them doe dissent, yet, notwithstandinge, the Companie are resolved to have the said cut made which I am comanded to signifie unto you.
- 09/09/52 4 Ordered that Mr Downing, who went lately downe into the levell with severall orders and letters from the Companie, be desired to deliver into Mr Jessop a note or perticuler of his charges and expences in his journey to and from, whereupon Mr Jessop is hereby ordered to pay the same and this shall be his warrant or discharge
- 09/09/52 5 Ordered that a letter be written to Captain Fisher of Wisbech touching a draw bridge formerly ordered to be made in the said towne with a copie of the order enclosed as followeth -
- The Companie of Adventurers, taking into their consideration their order of the 10th of February 1650 for a draw bridge to be made in the towne of Wisbich, which was by yourselfe agreed to on the behalfe of the said towne, but the same beinge not yet done, the Companie comanded mee to signifie unto you that they doe expecte the same should be made forthwith in pursuance of the said order and agreement, a copie whereof I have, by their direction here enclosed, sent unto you
- 09/09/52 6 Upon readinge a letter from Mr Hamond touching Elme Leame, it is ordered that answer be sent unto him as followeth

Your letter of the 6th September instant touching Elme Leame was this day read over, and the Companie doe comply with you in your offer to the towne to bringe the water to Friday Bridge, whereupon the Companie desire you would privately intymate unto them what the charge of it will bee, and likewise in layinge a tonnell, and the dimation in, and what manner of navigation, which they desire an account of from you by the next retorne

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| 09/09/52 | 7 | The Companie resolve to meete againe tomorrow morning at 10 a clocke to take into consideration Sir Cornelius Vermuydens design for the workes on the southside of Bedford River. |
| 10/09/52 | 1 | Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Oxenbridge, Captain Blackwall, Mr Cony, Mr Culpeper, Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Thurloe, Mr Trafford, Mr Neale, Mr Henley Snr |
| 10/09/52 | 2 | Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, beinge present, some debate was had touching his designe of the workes on the south side of Bedford River, and the Companie not beinge well satisfyed therewith, it was ordered that a letter should bee written to Mr Hamond as followeth |
| | | Sir - The Companie have this day spoke at large with Sir Cornelius Vermuyden about the whole designe for the southside and, although they apprehend that levell will not bee perfectly dreynd thereby, yet, that noe tyme may bee lost, and hopinge that their workes may serve for a beginnunge, they desire you to take care that when the 4 waies and the navigation from Cambridge bee perfected (as hee hath appointed), that the indreynes bee proceeded in, beginnunge above, 1st that is to say with the workes upon Grant, Botsham Load, Swaffham Lode and the downfall in that levell and so on to Soham Mere and Mildenhall River, perfectinge the workes as you goe, the Companie beinge willinge to proceede on therein so farre as the E2500 formerly designed will enable you, and further then that the Companie are not yet resolved to proceede. They desire you also that the highway, formerly designed for Bevills Leame and the hard landes of Vermuydens Eau upon Ramsey, bee forthwith made accordinge to former appointment. |
| 10/09/52 | 3 | [Page 7] The Companie resolved to meete againe at 10 a clocke in the forenoone on Thursdaie next to take into consideration the workes on the southside of Bedford River, and also to consider of the cash and what mony remaynes on the treasury |
| 16/09/52 | 1 | Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Browne |
| 16/09/52 | 2 | Upon readinge a letter from Mr Hamond, it is ordered that answer bee returned as followeth, that the Company, havinge read his letter of the 12 instant, they desire to know whether the three sluces appointed to bee set downe on Stowe River doe yet run and (if not) that all expedition may be used in doing thereof. The Companie expected to heare from him what hee further shall agree upon at the next meeting touching Elme Leame. As touching the other part of his letter about Arlebont and Palmer, two under surveyours, the Companie desire that the order made at Peterborough may bee pursued, yet if hee shall conceive it for the good of the Companie, they are willinge for some certaine tyme that they bee contynued |
| 16/09/52 | 3 | Upon reading the petition of Bridget Chiney, wife of James Chiney, one of the Scotch prisoners, praying an enlargement or imployment of her husband in some easier worke than hee is now put unto, not beinge bred up to such hard labour, it was |

thought fit that the said petition should bee recommended unto Mr Hamond who is desired to consider in what way hee may bee employed suteable to his ability and breeding without prejudice to the Companie, and to give order for disposing of him accordingly

- 16/09/52 4 Ordered that Mr Jessop doe accept of the severall bills of exchange now charged upon him, amountinge to the sum of a thousand, and pay the same accordingly
- 16/09/52 5 Upon readinge the petition of Alexander Macdill. messenger and foot post to the Companie, prayinge that the Companie would take his service into consideration, it is ordered that hee shall have 10s imprest paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie for his service past and an allowance of 7s 6d a weeke for his service for the tyme to come
- 16/09/52 6 The Companie takinge into consideration the state of that part of the levell which lyes on the north side of Bedford River allready adjudged dreynd, doe finde that some of the workes made on that side want reparation, and that for the repayre thereof and future maytenance of the workes of the said northside, heretofore perfected, a present sum of moneyes to bee raised by way of tax upon the whole 95000 acres, the Companie doe hereby thinke fitt and order that a tax of 4d an acre bee sett and layd upon the whole 95000 acres in the Acte of Parliament mentioned, as well upon the 80000 acres, comprised of the twenty lotts or shares, each share conteyning 4000 acres, as upon the 15000 acres overplus above the twenty lotts, and the said tax is hereby sett and imposed accordingly and ordered to bee paid into the officers of the treasury by the handes of the receivor of the Companie, for the tyme beinge att Mr Henleyes howse without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex, that is to say fower pence an acre for every acre thereof respectively, on or before the sixteenth day of October next ensuinge the date thereof, and in default of payment of the said tax, in manner as aforesaid, the respective proportions of land of the defaulters shall bee lyable and subjecte unto such penalties and forfeitures as are lymitted, appointed and conteyned in and by the said Acte of Parliament, initiated an acte for the dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes extending itselfe into the countyes of Northampton, Norffolke, Suffolke, Lincolne, Cambridge and Huntingdon and the Isle of Elie, or some of them
- 16/09/52 7 Upon readinge a letter from Mr Drewry of the 13 September instant, it is ordered that answer bee sent unto him as followeth
- I received your letter of the 13th of September instant which was this day read over to the Companie, and they desired Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, now present, to sett downe his direction in writinge for the doinge of old Bedford dreyne which, beinge done, I have accordingly, here enclosed, sent unto you, whereupon the Companie desire you would take into your **[Page 8]** speedie care the doing thereof, accordinge to the same direction, as also they desire you would alone take into your care the other workes accordingly to the order was last sent unto you, in regard they perceive by your letter that Captain Cole declynes to joyne with you therein.
- 16/09/52 8 Sir Cornelius Vermuydens direction for cleansing old Bedford dreyne sent in a letter to Mr Drewry, 16th September instant
- You are to sludge the same and to doe it by longe poles and a peece of plancke at the ende, and roade it; the workemen will understand what I meane, doe it exactly in the places where the mudd is driven in about Vermudens Eau and where the cutts were to deepen the new Owse, goe from Welshes dam unto halfe a myle nere Wellnea, but doe not touch nor stirre the grownd below Welnea, otherwise it will bee dangerous. It

is deepe enough below, and therefore doe not meddle with any thinge concerninge it.

Have a care for Hamonds Eau - Cornelius Vermuden

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| 23/09/52 | 1 | Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Mr Coney, Mr John Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Parsons, Mr Walker, Mr Robert Henley Jnr |
| 23/09/52 | 2 | Ordered that Pophams Eau dreyne shall bee made fortie foote broade or wider accordinge to the antient breadth it formerly was, and that it bee sufficiently deepened, and that the same bee scowred out unto Delfes howse |
| 23/09/52 | 3 | Ordered that Waldersea banke shall be repayred, accordinge as Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath directed, and to avoyd any danger this winter, it is further ordered that the same shall bee substantially wazed. |
| 23/09/52 | 4 | Ordered that the lower part of Neane River shall answer in depth and wideness with the upper part of the same river, and that care bee taken by Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood and Mr Moore, or eyther of them, to view the same and to see that the same may bee effectually done. |
| 23/09/52 | 5 | Ordered that, instead of plant water dreyne, there shall be another dreyne made to carry away the waters of that levell, and it is recommended to the care of Mr Parsons and Mr Moore to see the same effectually done |
| 23/09/52 | 6 | A question was put whether the cutt through Marshland shall goe from Salters Lode to Comon Lode. It was resolved in the negative. |
| 23/09/52 | 7 | Another question was put whether the cutt through Marshland shall goe from Pophams Eau downe to Comon Lode. It was resolved in the affirmative |
| 23/09/52 | 8 | Ordered that the cutt through Marshland shall bee made accordinge to the direction of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hereafter followinge. And it is recomended to the care of Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond, Mr Parsons and Mr Jonas Moore |

Direction of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden for a cutt to bee made through Marshland

Make your cutt through Marshland Comon beginninge for over against Pophams Eau, and there you are at the inside of Podike bancke to make your dryene so that is splits into two peeces, that is, make one dreyne towards the south side and another dreyne towards the northside. inclining in manner that between the said dreynes there bee left a receptacle to bee made wide fiftie rod in the midst to bee accoumpted from the one end to the other, and the said receptacle to fall into a pointe at the inside of Podike bancke about ten rod from it, and also to fall into a pointe ten rods from the inside of Owse banke, where in the sluces are, to **[Page 9]** the said dreynes, each to bee twenty foote wide above, sixteene foote in the bottom and six foote deepe, that is to say generally six foote deepe, but where the land is higher through which you cutt, then make it deeper proportionally, and if it bee lower then make it lesser then six foote deepe proportionally, and for the ten rodds above and then ten rodds below where the dreynes are to meete, there make forty foote wide answerable to the two dreynes.

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| 23/09/52 | 9 | As for the makinge of the bancke on each side, worke the earth of each dreyne all at one side and leave twelve foote foreland between each dreyne and the banckes, and the other side of each bancke make a were dike on the north side, make the were |
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dike twelve foote wide from above, eight foote in the bottome, leave ten foote foreland betweene the bancke and were dike, and on the southside make the were dike fifteen foote wide and the rest as before and worke the earth of both were dikes into the banckes

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| 23/09/52 | 10 | Where the grownd is lower, make the bancke higher by floore worke answerable to the banke on the higher grownd; by wheele barrowes make it. |
| 23/09/52 | 11 | And for the seate of the banke and height, generally guide yourselfe to that that the seate bee of 24 foote, eight foote on the top, high five foote, and in the lower part seven foote. |
| 23/09/52 | 12 | You shall doe well to begin your dreynes from underneath, avoid you water espetially by the were dikes which will lay your worke drie in the very winter |
| 23/09/52 | 13 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Sir Rafe Hare as followeth |

The Companie have byn acquainted with a letter you writt to my Lord Chief Justice St John concerninge the cutt intended though Marshland and observed therein the readines to be free of the Companie in what relates to the dreyninge of the Great Levell. The same tyme, when your letter was reade, they had, in consideration the said cutt, in what manner to carry the same, and doe finde it of absolute necessity to carry the same by a streight lyne from Pophams Eau into Comon Lode, the other way once spake of from Salters Loade appearinge to them not to bee practicable, nor att all answeringe theire ende in makine thereof. And this the Companie is thought fitt to make knowne unto you, havinge allwaies had experience of your good affection to the worke and respecte to the Companie. And you may rest assured that this cutt shall bee ordered in such manner that Marshland shall not bee att all in danger thereby.

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| 23/09/52 | 14 | Ordered that a letter bee written unto Gregory Gawsell Esqr as followeth |
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The Companie beinge in consideration of the cutt through Marshland, my Lord Chiefe Justice St John acquainted them with a letter hee had received from you relating to that busines wherein they finde your opinion concerninge the two waies proposed for that dreyne and that you conceive the carryinge of the dreyne from Pophams Eau in a straight lyne to Comon Lode is best in pointe of dreyninge but doubt that Marshland will not bee serviced so well by that way as by the other. The Companie have fully considered the whole and what hath byn of all handes objected and have resolved to goe by that way of Pophams Eau, findinge the other way not practicable, and for that you objecte concerning Marshland, they have given such direction touchinge the banckes as will serve the Country unquestionably, and so you may assure your Countrymen who are interested therein, and they rest in assured of your assistance in this busines

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| 23/09/52 | 15 | Ordered that a letter bee written unto Mr Drewry as followeth |
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The Companie comanded mee to signifie unto you that they desire you would goe on and discharge that trust and care which they have resolved in you in lookinge to the doinge of old Bedford dreyne and the severall other workes comitted to your charge, that the same may bee perfectly and substantially done as you goe on, and hereof they desire an account by the next retorne

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| 23/09/52 | 16 | Upon readinge a letter from Mr Turner touchinge the Sheyre dreyne, it is ordered that a letter bee sent unto the superintendents as followeth |
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The Companie, havinge lately received a letter from Mr John Turner touchinge the Sheyre dreyne, it thereby appeared that the gent to whome the same was formerly recomended doe differ in judgement and opinion how the same shall bee done, the Companie therefore doe recomende it unto your care and you are desired forthwith to take a view of the same, and consider what is necessary to bee done for makinge the said dreyne a perfecte dreyne.

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| 30/09/52 | 1 | <p>[Page 10] Mr Say, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Walker, Mr Neale</p> |
| 30/09/52 | 2 | <p>Ordered that Captaine Reade bee desired to assist Mr Drewry for perfectinge of repayres of the north bancke of Bedford River and for scowringe out of Hamonds Eau accordinge to the former orders of the Companie, whereby the same was recomended to the care of Mr Drewry</p> |
| 30/09/52 | 3 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee sent to Captain Read of Chartris as followeth</p> <p>The Companie of Adventurers for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, takinge notice of your good affection to that worke, have for the present pitched upon you for joyninge your assistance with Mr Drewry for perfectinge the repayres of the north bancke of Bedford River and for the scowring of Hamonds Eau according to the orders here enclosed and such former orders as will be communicated to you by Mr Drewry, a duplicate whereof wee have herewith sent you, which they desire you to pursue with your uttermost dilligence and expedition of your respecte, wherein the Companie will bee very sensible and to wee rest</p> <p>Your very lovinge friends</p> <p>Robert Henley
John Thurloe
William Say
John Walker
Robert Henley Jnr</p> |
| 30/09/52 | 4 | <p>Upon readinge of a letter from Mr Drewry of the 27 of September instant, it is ordered that a letter bee sent unto Mr Latch as followeth</p> <p>The Companie are enformed that the repaires of Waldersey bancke are very insufficient and thereby finde cause to suspecte that, if they bee not made more substantiall and perfecte, the floodes this winter will much endanger it and consequently draw a very great prejudice in the north levell. You are therefore desired to take a view and serve thereof, and to give the Companie an account with the first opportunitye of the condition thereof and what you doe in order to the perfectinge of what is defective, and so expecting your speedy answer we rest</p> <p>Your very affectionate friends</p> <p>Robert Henley
John Thurloe
William Say
Robert Henley Jnr
John Walker</p> |
| 30/09/52 | 5 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore as followeth</p> |

The Companie are informed that Mr Parsons who, together with Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond, was entrusted with manageinge of the cutt through Marshland, and went from there on Friday last with the Companies orders in that behalfe, is fallen very sicke, by the way of reason whereof that worke may bee delayed if the appointment of some other in his steade bee not speedily provided for. You are therefore desired forthwith to apply yourselfe to the care of that busines in such sort as was by the former orders (whereof a duplicate is here enclosed) recomended to Mr Parsons, attendinge the same wholly untill it bee finished, and therein to use the uttermost expedition you can, it beinge of so great a consequence that the neglecte or delay thereof may bringe a ruine on the whole north levell, in which regard your spetiall care and dilligence is expected and required herein, and an account with the first oportunitye into what way the same is put, and from tyme to tyme of the progres thereof, and so we rest.

Your very affectionate friends

Robert Henley
John Thurloe
William Say
Robert Henley Jnr
John Walker

- 30/09/52 6 Upon readinge a letter from Mr Hamond, it is ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth

Your letter of the 28th instant to the clarke of the Companie hath byn read and considered of and the attestation of Thomas Raintree that came inclosed, concerninge the throwinge in of the dike on Swaffham Fenne, which the Companie apprehende to be of a very high and important nature and fitt to bee fully examyned, and the actors therein to be severely proceeded with, which the Companie doe accordingly intend to serve as any of their names bee discovered, and [Page 11] till when, they cannot give any perticular direction other then to desire your effectuall and speedy endeavors to finde out the names of those who threatened Raintree and to retorne them to the Compaine with the perticular growndes of charginge the facte upon them that the matter may bee put into a way of a prosecution.

- 30/09/52 7 As to the contracte amountinge to £566.15.00 for the Sheyre dreyne, the Companie are yet in the darke aswell as yourselfe concerninge the growndes thereof, nor doe they understande the nature of that former contracte made by Mr Latch and Mr Drewry which your letter intymates. To the ende therefore the Companies sence may bee given, thereupon, you are desired, with the first oportunitye, to send up a scope of both the said contracts with the full state of the matter of facte in relation what hath byn formerly done and paid for upon the dreyne, so ordering the busines in the meane tyme, that the Companie may not paie double for the same worke. The Companie are enformed that Mr Parsons who went hence on Friday last with their instructions for finishinge the cutt through Marshland is fallen sicke by the way, whereupon they have transmitted a duplicate of the last order concerninge that worke to Mr Jonas Moore with expresse direction to him wholly to intend the finishinge of that worke in such sort as was formerly recommended to Mr Parsons. For the promoting whereof you are earnestly desired to give your best assistance, to which ende wee have also herewith sent you a duplicate of those orders, and wee rest.

Your very affectionate friends

Robert Henley
 John Thurloe
 Willam Say
 Robert Henley Jnr
 John Walker

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| 07/10/52 | 1 | Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Mr Browne, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Latch, Mr Jessop |
| 07/10/52 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to write a letter on the behalfe of the Companie to Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond to hasten the intended cutt through Marshland. |
| 07/10/52 | 3 | Mr Hamonds letter of the 5th October instant was read out to the Companies answer, whereunto the Companie doe intend on Saterdag next |
| 07/10/52 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Jessop doe from tyme to tyme pay to Alexander the messenger his allowance of 7s 6d a weeke accordinge to the order of the 16th of September last |
| 07/10/52 | 5 | Ordered that Mr Latch bee desired to speake with my Lord Chief Justice St John and Mr Thurloe to consider of some fitt persons as may bee named a committee to treat with the Comissioners of the several countyes on the levell and upon what termes they are to treat about taxinge of Adventurers landes to the Comonwealth. And likewise, hee is desired to speake with my Lord Chief Justice St John about the busines of forelands and the were dikes in the north and southside of Bedford River. |
| 07/10/52 | 6 | <p>Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to write to the expeditor or his deputy touchinge the charginge of bills of exchange, and to send him enclosed the order hereafter followinge viz -</p> <p>Whereas severall bills of exchange have byn drawne upon the receivor by the expeditor or his assigned since the Companies late orders for restraite which yet remayne unreverst, of which bills the Companie were, notwithstandinge, content to allow the acceptance, and whereupon computinge the monyes received by the expeditor upon this yeares account, and considering Mr Tenches abstract of the comptrollers warrants to the 11th of September last, and a certificate from the receivor to Mr Latch bearinge date the 17th September last concerninge the state of the cash then in the Country, it appeared that the said 17 of September there [Page 12] remayned in the expeditors handes about £1200, out of which discount was to bee made of his owne sallary for this year, and of the comptrollers warrants for payment since the said 11th of September, which warrant at Mr Latches late cominge out of the countrey were this day affirmed by himselfe not to amounte on the whole to £700, and that, although a considerable part of the said £1200 did then remayne accordinge to this computation unissued, yet since the said the said 17th September, advise is received of above £1200 more drawne by the exchange as aforesaid so that a considerable sum appeares to remayne in the expeditors handes, it is therefore ordered that the expeditor and his assigned doe forbear to charge any more bills upon the Companies receivor untill the Companie shall give order, wherein a punctuall conformity is expected, the Companie declaringe that if any bee drawne contrary to the tenor hereof the same shall not bee accepted.</p> |
| 07/10/52 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Latch and Mr Hamond bee desired with the 1 st opportunitye to renew their treaty with the towne of Wisbech touchinge Elme Leame and speedily report to the Company what progress is made therein |
| 09/10/52 | 1 | Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Coney, Mr Browne, |

- 09/10/52 2 Mr Hamonds letter of the 5th October being resumed, it is ordered that a letter be sent to him as followeth viz -
- The Companie, havinge received and read over your letter of 5th October instant, whereby it appeareth there was no matter of great concernment, yet. Notwithstandinge, the Companie comanded mee to signifie unto you as touchinge the first parte of your letter about the busines of Swaffham, they have resolved to proceed upon the statute of Northampton in due tyme upon all such as have comitted that ryott in throwing downe the bankes. In the meane tyme, they desire your care in discovering of the names of the principle actores and send them up to the Companie
- 09/10/52 3 Touching the Sheyre dreyne, the Companie would have the first contracte to be performed before there be any engagement upon the 2nd contracte. As touchinge Elme Leame, you may perceive by the order enclosed that the Companie desire Mr Latch and yourselfe with the 1st opportunitye to treat with the towne of Wisbech and speedily report to the Companie what progres is made therein.
- 09/10/52 4 I have here enclosed, also sent you an order, whereby the makinge of a were dyke all along the south bancke of Bedford River is recommended to the care of Mr Palmer, which the Companie desires may be communicated unto him
- 09/10/52 5 Your other letter touching Goodson was also read over but the Companie did not determyn anythinge thereupon untill a fuller meetinge
- 09/10/52 6 Ordered that there shall be a were dike made all alonge the south bancke of the Bedford River to prevent the damage may be done by cattell with care that in all places where the Comons are that the bancke be made accordinge to the directions in St Ives Law, and it is recommended to the care of Mr Palmer to see the same speedily and substantially done
- 09/10/52 7 Ordered that Pophams Eau dreyne be immediately made and scowred up in a streight lyne as high as Delph howse upon the River of Neane and that the same be made fortie foote broad or wider if there appeare to be cause, and that it be of a sufficient depth to answer the depth of the Neane and the rest of Pophams Eau. And the care of this worke is recommended to Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond and Mr Jonas Moore, or eyther of them
- 09/10/52 8 Ordered that a letter be written to Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond and Mr Jonas Moore, or eyther of them, with the aforesaid order enclosed as followeth viz -
- Whereas the Companie did, by their order dated 23rd of September last, directe that Pophams Eau should be scowred and made upon a streight lyne as high as Delphes howse nere the River of Nene, and the Companie, beinge enformed noe progres hath byn made therein, which they are troubled att in regard that the cutt is of great concernment to the landes thereabout, they have thereupon ordered the same to be immediately taken in hand and proceeded upon [Page 13] and have recommended the care thereof to you two, or eyther of you, as will see, by order enclosed, and they desire you immediately sett thereupon that it may be finished as soone or sooner then the cutt of Marshland
- 09/10/52 9 Ordered that the order of the 29th of March last touching forelandes and bankes be hereby confirmed, and a copie thereof sent downe enclosed in a letter to Mr Moore as followeth viz -

Mr Moore

The Companie have confirmed the order formerly made of the 29 March last touching forelands, banckes and 12 foote dikes, and a copie whereof you did formerly receive, yet, notwithstanding, I have againe sent you another copie which the Companie desire you would see effectually performed and perfected

- 09/10/52 10 The Companie, takinge into consideration old Bedford dreyne, the insufficiency thereof, it is ordered that a letter bee written to Captain Read of Chartris to desire him the assist Mr Drewry in putting in execution the order of the 2nd August last as follweth viz -
- The Companie of Adventurers for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, beinge very well assured of your good affection toward the workes, have comanded mee in their names to signifie unto you they desire you would bee pleased to assist Mr Drewry with workes committed to his charge and perticularly in puttinge into execution the order of the 2nd August touching the north banke of Bedford River, a copie whereof is here enclosed sent unto you
- 09/10/52 11 Ordered that Alexander the messenger or foote post of the Companie shall be allowed the sum of fower and twenty shilling and five pence towards the expense of clothes and apparel according to a bill now presented to the Companie, provided that this bee not brought in as a president for the tyme to come
- 14/10/52 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Colonell Sydney, Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Thurloe, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Adams, Mr Jessop
- 14/10/52 2 Upon readinge of severall letters from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond, Mr Life and Mr Moore, touching the obstructinge of the cutt through Marshland and the wideninge of Pophams Eaue by meanes of some proceedinge and directions of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, the Company doe order and declare that, notwithstandinge anythinge objected or offered by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to the contrary concerninge the progress of the said workes or eyther of them, both the said workes shall bee with all possible expedition and effecte proceeded, with accordinge as the same were directed by the Companies late orders in that behalfe made, and that the obstructinge thereof by the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath byn a very great disservice to the Companies affayres
- 14/10/52 3 Ordered that the managinge of both the said workes, according to the Companies said late orders, doe stand referred to the persons appointed by the Companies late orders, who doe further declare that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is not att all to intermeddle therewith, and the Companies agents appointed, as aforesaid, are to proceede accordinge to the said late orders, any direction from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden or any other person to the contrary not withstandinge.
- 14/10/52 4 Ordered that it bee referred unto the said persons authorized by the Companies said late orders, to enlarge the forelands and the seate of the bancke of the dreyne in Marshland to such large proportions (above what is allready directed) as they shall thinke fitt that so the same may bee sufficient and the earth taken out of the said dreyne disposed with most advantage.
- 14/10/52 5 Ordered that all such persons as have in their hands any planks or wheelbarrows of the Companies, doe forthwith deliver to such persons as shall bee appointed by Lieutenantt Raymond and Mr Jonas Moore to receive the same such proportions of

the said planks and wheelebarrowes as the said Lieutenantt Raymond and Mr Moore should directe, to the end the same may bee employed for the Companies service upon the workes in Marshland.

14/10/52 6 **[Page 14]** Ordered that all contracts made concerninge Marshland Cutt and Pophams Eau bee pursued according to the tenor of such contracts and the Companies late orders in that behalfe made, and that the severall pay dayes appointed in pursuance thereof bee punctually observed and direction from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden or any other person to the contrary notwithstanding.

14/10/52 7 Ordered that letters be written to Mr Jonas Moore and Lieutenant Colonell Raymond with duplicates of the said severall orders enclosed as followeth

Your letters of the 7th and 11th instant were this daie read to the Companie, from whence they observed your care of the matters entrusted to you for their service, and finding some obstructions to have byn made about Marshland Cutt and Pophams Eau, they have determynd of some orders therein, a copie whereof I have enclosed by espetiall comand of the Companie, who desire you to contynue your best endeavors (whereof they are very confident for the vigorous and speedy execution thereof). And whereas by their order of 23rd of September last, it was ordered that instead of Plantwater dreyne, another dreyne should bee made to carry awaie the water of that levell, the effectuall doinge whereof was recomended to Mr Parsons and you, Mr Moore. And whereas Mr Parsons is since dead, the Company comanded mee to desire you to take care thereof and to see it done as you shall see most fitt for the best advantage of the Companies service. And they also desire you to have an eie upon the 16 foote dreyne betwixt Honey and Pophams Eau, that the same bee perfected so as to be serviceable to the endes to which it was designed. And for as much as one of you give notice in your letter that Mr Tench and Mr Ringwood were lately sicke, the Companie desires that, in case any appointed to the oversight of the works under your charge should, by sicknes or otherwise, bee disabled to attend the same, you would appointe some other fitt person to officiate therein for the present as you shall finde most convenient. All which I present to you as was given mee in charge by the Companie

14/10/52 8 Ordered that a letter bee sent to Mr Latch with the said severall orders enclosed as followeth

The Company did this day passe severall orders concerninge their workes whereof they comanded me to send you copies which I doe accordingly by the enclosed.

14/10/52 9 Whereas Mr Welsh and Mr Ringwood were appointed by the Companie orders of 28th August last to take care that Waldersea bancke bee repayred accordinge to Sir Cornelius Vermuydens direction, and Mr Parsons and Lieutenantt Raymond were desired to oversee the same, and whereas Mr Latch was desired by the Companies letter of 30 September last to take a view of that bancke and certifie the condition thereof, and what was done in order to the perfecting of what was defective, order that the said repayres bee proceeded in as Mr Latch shall upon the place finde most behovefull to the Companies service. Any direction of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to the contrary, notwithstanding whereof, the Companies officers, therein concerned, are to take notice

14/10/52 10 Upon reading severall letters from Mr Life of Downham touching the cutt through Marshland, it is ordered that a letter bee written unto him as followeth.

The Company of Adventurers for dreyning the Great Levell of the Fennes comanded

mee to signifie to you that they have received your two letters and (in their name) to retorne you thanks for that respecte you have thereby manifested to their affayres, which they perceive have byn too much obstructed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, notwithstanding whose endeavors or directions to the contrary. Their Lordships have ordered that the cutt in Marshland shall bee proceeded from Pophams Eau, as the same was lately sett forth. And they desire you, and all others in the Country concerned in the Companies undertaking, to bee assured that it will bee their constant desire to manage thinges with all due respecte to the Comisioners accomodation as well as their owne, hopng that those interested in Marshland will bee also carefull to prevent any prejudice to themselves by neglecte of their owne default, wherein they desire you to imploy your advice and interest with those whome the repaying thereof doth apperteyne

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| 14/10/52 | 11 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee written and send unto Sir Cornelius Vermuyden as followeth</p> <p>Sir - the Companie comanded mee to give you notice that they received your letter of the 9th October instant, whereby, and by some other advertisements out of the Country, they bee enformed of some stop made [Page 15] by you in the execution of their orders concerning Marshland dreyne and the wideninge of Pophams Eau, and of a great disservice thereby done to their affayres. The have also comanded mee to certifie you that they have renewed their directions for the perfectinge of those workes accordinge to their orders last made in that behalfe and that they expecte no stop should bee made by any of their officers in any the workes by them designed without their owne warrant</p> |
| 14/10/52 | 12 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond as followeth</p> <p>The Companie have received notice that a paie for Marshland dreyne was promised on Satterdaie next, the disappointment whereof they conceive will bee a retardinge to that worke. Their Lordships did therefore comande mee to signifie to you their earnestt desire to promote what in you lyes that a pay may bee there made accordingly, to which purpose this expresse is speedily dispatched</p> |
| 14/10/52 | 13 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Richard Clamp of Lynn as followeth</p> <p>The Companie have received notice that a pay for Marshland dreyne was promised on Satterdaie next, the disappointment whereof they conceive will bee a retrdinge to that worke. Their Lordships doe therefore desire you to use your best endeavor that mony may then and there bee ready for that purpose. The some cannot bee estimated here but if you convey to much, the overplus will without much difficulty bee returned, the place beinge not farr from Lynne. In order to the promoting hereof this messenger is expressly dispatched.</p> |
| 14/10/52 | 14 | <p>Ordered that a letter by written to Mr Peter Dymond as followeth</p> <p>The Company are enformed a paie was promised for Marshland dreyne on Saterdag next, the disappointment whereof may bee again at retardinge to that works. They have therefore comanded mee to desire Mr Hamond to promote the making of a paie then and there accordingly, as also to Mr Clamp to provide mony, and by like order, I am to signifie their desire to you that you will give your best furtherance that the said promise be effective</p> |
| 14/10/52 | 15 | <p>Ordered that the Companie doe resolve to meete againe on Thursdaie next att 10 a clocke in the forenoone to consider how their cash standes in the treasury and likewise how to bring in all moneyes in arrere</p> |

21/10/52	1	Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Downinge, Mr Latch, Mr Jessop, Mr Browne, Mr St John, Mr Adams
21/10/52	2	Ordered that Lieutenant Colonell Underwood, the expendor, or his assigned shall have liberty, and are hereby authorized to draw bills of exchange on Mr Jessop, the receivor, for any sum not exceeding the sum of a thousand poundes, any former order of the Company to the contrary notwithstanding. And a letter is to bee written to the expendor with the said order enclosed sent unto him, to signifie what the Companie have done in it for some reasons best knowne to themselves
21/10/52	3	[Page 16] Ordered by the Companie of Adventurers that Thursdaie next bee a daie appointed for sale of defaulters landes in payinge in their respective taxes, and the Companie doe resolve to meete at 10 a clocke in the forenoone for the purpose aforesaid.
21/10/52	4	Ordered that Mr Jessop, the receivor, doe, accordinge to the order of the 4th of June 1651, receive all the taxes in arrere upon the respective landes belonginge to Mr Thomas Hampson, Mr Henry Henne and Sir David Waltons, and to give acquittances for the same without prejudice to any other person or persons accordinge to the order as aforesaid.
21/10/52	5	Upon the request of Mr Jessop, receivor of the Companie, it is ordered that hee shall have leave to bee absent out of towne upon some occasion of busines, fowerteene daies from this daie of leavinge, Mr George Dalton to receive the money in his absence
21/10/52	6	The Companie, beinge acquainted by Mr Adams with the great prejudice and inconveniency that arised by reason of keepinge of tolles in severall parts of the levell, propounded that some speedy course may bee taken for remedy thereof, whereupon it is ordered that Mr Adams bee desired to speake with Mr Attorney Generall to consider some expedient for preventinge the same and the sollicitor is to attend the said attorney generall with such fees as are necessary to bee given him.
23/10/52	1	Mr John Russell, Mr St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr John Arthur, Mr Carill, Mr Gale, Mr Bradely, Mr Thurloe, Mr Downing, Mr Sydney, Mr Nealle, Mr Alleyn, Mr Browne
23/10/52	2	The Companie beinge informed that Mr Drewry, who, together with Captain Read, has the care of the north bancke of Bedford River, is lately fallen sicke and fearinge lest that worke should be hindered or retarded, doe order that Mr Jonas Moore bee desired to contribute his assistance with Captain Read in takeinge care of perfectinge the repayres of the said north bancke and give the Companie an account thereof from tyme to tyme
23/10/52	3	Ordered that Robert Pinchbacke and all such others as have the care and custodie of the Companies planks and wheelebarrows doe forbear to deliver out any planks or wheelbarrows (to any other person or persons but such as are appointed by warrant under the handes of Lieutenantt Raymond and Mr Jonas Moore) which are, accordinge to the order of the 14th October last, to bee employed for the Companies service on the workes in Marshland
23/10/52	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Jonas Moore with the said orders enclosed, signifyinge unto him that the Companie take notice it is a very great disservice done unto them by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden in takeinge upon him to dispose of their

materialls contrary to their former expresse orders and that they will in due tyme take the same into their consideration

- 23/10/52 5 Ordered that the usuall daies of meetinge of the Companie of Adventurers (during this terme bee Thursdaies and Satterdaies) bee at 2 a clocke in the afternoone
- 23/10/52 6 **[Page 17]** Ordered that Mr St John bee desired to repayre into the Great Levell and perticularly to take care of Pophams Eau dreyne, Waldersea Bancke, the north banke of Bedford River and the cutt through Marshland (the orders of the Companie relating thereunto beinge herewith delivered unto him) and, upon the arrival there, hee is authorized to procure a meeting with such of the members of the Companie as are by the Companie employed in those workes and to send for all other persons employed therein as hee shall finde necessary to understand from them the state of the said workes and affayes and the method and waie wherein the said persons have put the doinge thereof. And upon consideration of the whole, hee is hereby authorized, by advice with such of the Companie as are employed as aforesaid or any of them or by himselfe in their absence, to give such orders and directions for the effectuall carrying on and perfectinge of the said workes, as materialls, paie daies or nominating of fitt persons to bee employed therein, or otherwise, as hee shall finde necessary. And hee is desired to give frequent advice to the Companie from tyme to tyme of the state of the said affayes
- 23/10/52 7 Ordered that Mr Latch bee desired in his way, as hee goes from heare into the Fennes, to take a view of the north bancke of Bedford River and all such defects as hee shall upon view finde in the said bancke, to leave order and direction in writinge with Captain Read of Chartris who is desired to meete Mr Latch att Mepall for repayringe thereof as the said Mr Latch shall sett downe and thinke fitt, whereupon the said Captain Read is desired to see the repayres thereof perfected accordinge to the said direction in writing, and it is further ordered that Mr Latch bee also desired to give order and direction in writing that the forelands to the said bancke bee made accordinge to the dimentions expressed in St Ives Law
- 23/10/52 8 Ordered that Captain Read bee desired to put in execution such directions in writing as Mr Latch shall give and sett downe for the perfecting of the repayres of the north bancke of Bedford River and the foreland belonginge to the same.
- 23/10/52 9 Ordered that the 12 foote dikes of Caldecot and Holme bee speedily scowred out to their full depth and it is recomended to the care of Mr Latch to appoint such person or persons for doinge thereof as hee shall thinke fitt.
- 25/10/52 1 Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Carill, Colonell Walton, Mr Sydney
- 25/10/52 2 Whereas by order of 23 October instant the doinge of Pophams Eau dreyne, Waldersea bancke, the north bancke of Bedford River and the Cutt through Marshland were recomended to the care of Mr St John, it is ordered that Mr Latch comptroller shall have liberty and is hereby authorized from tyme to tyme to give warrant for payment of all such sum and sums of money for the doing the said workes as shall bee allowed of by the said Mr St John
- 25/10/52 3 Whereas by order of 28th June last diverse members of the Companie or any three of them were desired constantly to meete two daies in every weeke upon such partes of the levell where the Companies service shall arise, espetially required during the last vacation, onely or untill the Companie shall give further order, and, whereas the tyme lymitted in and by the said order is now expired, the Companie, taking the same into consideration, doe hereby thinke fitt that although the workes of the somer are for

the most part serviced, [Page 18] yet considering the necessity of contynuinge of severall members on the levell this winter for observinge, transactinge and communicating the Companies affayres below and from tyme to tyme to certifie the Companie the state of their affayres, doe order that Mr Latch and Mr Hammond bee contynued and allowed after the rate of three poundes a weeke, according to former order, for each of them as shall atttend the said services. And the comptroller is accordingly to give warrant to the expendor which, with their respective acquittances, shall bee to the expendor a sufficient warrant

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| 25/10/52 | 4 | Ordered that Mr St John bee desired to call all such persons before him as have the care and custodie of the carts, planks, wheelbarrows, spindles and materials of the Companie and examyn what is within custodie and take an account thereof, and is it further ordered that Mr St John shall have from the receiver of the Companie an extracte of the said materials of the Companie delivered unto him. |
| 28/10/52 | 1 | Mr John Russell, Mr Holman, Mr Alleyn, Mr Bradley, Mr Say, Mr Sydney, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Fountayne, Mr John Arthur, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr William Crane, Mr William Weston, Mr Browne, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trenchard, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Hampson, Mr Marsham, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Gorges, Sir Thomas Thyme |
| 28/10/52 | 2 | Mr Henley, now offering to the Companie to paie in all the arreres due upon the 5th lott into the handes of the receiver of the Companie, doe, <i>bene esse</i> , without prejudice to any other person or persons, whereupon the sale of the said 5th lott is respited for the present and is to remayne as his security in case it does not belong to Mr Henley, to pay the taxes in arrere upon the same |
| 28/10/52 | 3 | Whereas John Trenchard Esqr hath made default in payinge in the respective taxes due the 1st December, 25th March, 26th Aprill, 20th July, 20th August and 16th October instant for his proportion of 100 acres in 17th lott, amountinge to the sum of £26.13.04, now forasmuch as the said 100 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Robert Henley Snr Esqr, being present, offered 50s an acre for the purchase thereof, amountinge to the sum of £250, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Robert Henley Snr and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto him the said Robert Henley, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sun of £26.13.04 bee, within a weeke next after the date hereof, paid unto the receiver of the Companie and the remainder or surplusage being £223.08.08, also within the same tyme is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said Robert Henley shall have an assurance of the said 100 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to his and their heires |
| 28/10/52 | 4 | Whereas Isaac Jones Esqr, his heires or assigned have made default in payinge the severall and respective taxes due the 26th Aprill, 20th July, 20th August and 16th October instant for his proportion of 250 acres in the 8th lott amountinge to the sum of £35.08.04, now forasmuch as the said 259 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Robert Henley Snr Esqr, being present, offered 50s an acre for the purchase, amounting to £625 thereof, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, [Page 19] the Companie, by vertue and according to the said Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 250 acres unto the |

said Robert Henley Snr and his heires to have and to hold the said 250 acres unto him the said Robert Henley, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £35.08.04 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paie unto the receivor of the Companie, and the remayndor or surplusage being £589.11.08, also within the same tyme, is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Robert Henely shall have an assurance of the said 250 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires

- 28/10/52 5 Whereas William Woodward Esqr his heires and assigned have made default in payinge in the moytie of one 15d tax due 20th August last and one 4d tax due 16th October instant for his share or proportion of 300 acres in the 8th lott amountinge to the sum of £14.07.10, now forasmuch as the said 300 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr George Dalton present offered 50s an acre for the purchase thereof, amountinge to the sum of £750.00.00, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes as shall grow due for the same in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 300 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 300 acres unto him the said George Dalton, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £14.07.10 bee by tomorrow at night paid unto the receivor of the Companie. and the remayndor or surplusage being £735.12.06 bee within a weeke restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said George Dalton shall have an assurance of the said 300 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires.

Accordinge to this order, Mr Dalron hath nominated George Woodward gent to bee purchasor of the said 300 acres and desires a conveyance of the said lande to bee made to him and his heires.

- 28/10/52 6 Whereas Alderman Underwood and Richard Rogers have made default in payinge in taxes due the 20th July, 20th August and the 16th of October instant for their share or proportion of 61 acres and a halfe in the 11th lott, amounting to the sum of £04.11.09, now forasmuch as the said 61 acres 1/2 were this daie exposed to sale and Mr Thomas Alleyn, being present this daie, offered 50s an acre for the purchase thereof, amountinge to the sum of £153.15.00, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes as shall grow due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 61 acres 1/2 unto the said Thomas Allyn and his heires to have and to hold the said 61 acres 1/2 unto him the said Thomas Allyn, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £04.17.04 bee within a weeke next after the sale are hereof paid unto the receivor of the Companie, and the remayndor or surplusage being £148.17.07 bee within a weeke restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said Thomas Allyn shall have an assurance of the said 300 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires.

- 28/10/52 7 Whereas John Holland and Fabian Phillips have made default in payinge in the two moytices of 15d tax due 20th July and 20th August last and one 15d tax due the 16th of October instant for their share or proportion of 500 acres in the 13th lott, amounting

to the sum of £39.11.08, now forasmuch as the said 500 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr Say, being present this daie, offered 40s an acre for the purchase thereof, amountinge to the sum of £1000, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes as shall grow due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 500 acres unto the said Mr Say and his heires to have and to hold the said 500 acres unto him the said Mr Say, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £39.11.08 bee within a weeke next after the sale hereof paid unto the receivor of the Companie, and the remayndor or surplusage being £960.08.04 bee within a weeke restored to the right owner, according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum per *prout antea*.

[Page 20] Whereas Thomas Bales, Charles Cox, Thomas Spence, Thomas Rawlins and Richard Beverley have made default in payinge in the two moyties of one 15d tax, due 20th July and 20th August last, and one tax, due 16th October instant, for their share or proportion of 2000 acres, part of their share or proportion 2700 acres in the 2nd lott, amounting to the sum of £158.06.08, now forasmuch as the said 2000 acres were this day exposed to sale and John Trenchard Esqr, being now present, offered 50s an acre for the purchase thereof, amounting to the sum of £5000, and hath agreed to paie all future taxes as shall grow due for the same, in consideration thereof and forasmuch as it being their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 2000 acres unto the said John Trenchard and his heires to have and to hold the said 2000 acres unto him the said John Trenchard, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £158.06.08 bee, within a weeke next after the date hereof, paid into the receivor of the Companie, and the remaynder or surplusage being £481.13.14, also within the same time, is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale to be void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Trenchard shall have an assurance of the said 2000 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as he shall nominate, and to his and their heires.

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| 28/10/52 | 8 | <p>Ordered that a letter bee written to the expeditor and or his deputy as followeth</p> <p>The Company takinge notice of the paper of arreres, this being a day or sale for defaulters landes, it appeared that Major Alexander Blake amongst others was in arrere, but it being enformed that for the most part hee useth to paie his taxes unto yourselfe or Mr Clamp below in the Country of which the receivor here hath not had any advice from you, the Companie respite the sale of his land at present, desiring you will not fayle for the future, upon receipt of any taxes in the Country, within dayes to certifie the receivor here to the intent the Companie may not sell any Adventurers landes here above when as they have paid their taxes unto yourselfe or Mr Clamp</p> |
| 28/10/52 | 9 | <p>A question was put whether Mr Henry Henne shall be entered in the tax roll according to his deede now produced or noe. It was resolved in the affirmative.</p> |
| 28/10/52 | 10 | <p>Another question was put whether or noe the parties concerned in the land in question shall have a month tyme to be heard, having notice given them before they bee concluded, it was resolved also in the affirmative.</p> |
| 28/10/52 | 11 | <p>Ordered that the sollicitor of the Companie take care that Captain Fisher and others on the north side of Wisbich may bee sued to the outlawry for the mony owinge from that towne to the Companie, and the receivor is to issue out the usuall fees to the said</p> |

solicitor for passinge the tyme and other charges

- 28/10/52 12 Ordered that the Companie doe intend to meete on Satterday next att 2 o clocke in the afternoone to make sale of such defaulters landes as are in arrere for payinge the last tax of 4d an acre
- 29/10/52 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Crane, Colonell Castell, Mr Carill, Mr John Arthur
- 29/10/52 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond as followeth
- The Companie, takinge your letter into consideration, doe retorne thanks for your great care in discoveringe the persons and their names as have byn so injurious in cuttinge and carryinge away theire banckes, but with all they desire you would not fayle to send up some fitt person or persons that are also to make oath of the matter of facte. In the meane tyme, the Companie shall endeavour by severall wayes to bringe such persons to condigne and severe punishment.
- 29/10/52 3 **[Page 21]** Upon reading of a letter from Mr Moore the surveyour, it is ordered that an answer bee sent to his as followeth
- Mr Moore
- The Companie, havinge heard your letter read over, have seriously taken into consideration the cuttinge open the higher end of Pophams Eau dreyne, and they with you doe concurre and conceive it will bee of little or noe use att all to the dreyning att present (though for the future it may bee), and therefore they are willinge to suspend that order att present to the end all other more effectuall workes may bee perfected, that is to say the north bancke of Bedford River, Waldersea Banke and the cutt through Marshland, which they would have vigorously prosecuted to which purpose you are this much to signifie to Mr St John
- 29/10/52 4 Whereas by severall letters, the Companie have lately received advertizement from Mr Hamond that theire banckes, espetially the north banke of Bedford River, is exceedingly dugge and spoyld with logges to the great injury thereof and inevitable ruine unles tymely prevented, and all is of want of some dilligent and active person to guard and looke to the same, and whereas Mr Hamond, by his said severall orders, hath recomended to the Companie one Mr Goodson to take that care and imployment upon him, if the Companie shall so thinke fitt, it is ordered that the said Mr Goodson bee recommended to the consideration of Mr Walker, St John and members of the Companie lately come downe into the levell to take care of severall workes ordered to bee done, and if the said Mr St John shall in his judgement thinke him a fitt person to bee imployed that then hee may please to entertaine him for the purpose aforesaid, and thereupon the Companie will allow him such sallary as Mr St John shall also think fitt.
- 30/10/52 1 Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carrill, Mr William Crane, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Thurloe, Mr Henry Henne, Mr John Arthur, Mr Robert Hampson
- 30/10/52 2 Ordered that the daie of sale of defaulters landes in payinge the last tax of 4d an acre are be put of untill this day sennight att two a clocke in the afternoone
- 30/10/52 3 The Companie, takinge into consideration the great injury and wrong done unto them by cuttinge and carryinge away theire banckes by some wicked and evill disposed persons in the level, it was thought fitt and ordered that Mr Carill and Mr Hampson

bee desired to attend Mr Latch or Mr Maynard with his fee of 20s and desire his opinion in writing what is fitt for the Companie to doe, and if an action of the case will lye herein, that then the sollicitor of the Companie doe forthwith take out writts against all such persons as have so offended

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| 30/10/52 | 4 | Mr Carill and Mr Hampson did accordingly attend Mr Latch and gave him 20s and brought his opinion in writinge, where upon it is ordered that a copie thereof bee sent enclosed in a letter to Mr Hamond, together with severall writts against the said offenders as followeth |
| | | The Companie recieved your letter and the names of the persons have cutt and carryed awaie theire bankes. The Company are studying how they may severely punish the offenders for the tyme past, and for the tyme to come they desire the powers of the Acte of Parliament may bee put in execution, that or to say that application bee made to all sheriffes, justices of peace and other officers and ministers on the respective countyes that they may take care to suppres the like for the future and grant court warrants for the speedy apprehending of theis and such other offenders against the said Acte of [Page 22] Parliament, and appoint some fitt persons to oppose them and to have indictments brought against them to the end they may be fyned, imprisoned and bound to theire good behaviour accordinge to the advice of Mr Latch of councell for the Companie, a copie whereof I have herewith sent you, as also, by order of the Companie, fower writts to the intent they may bee forthwith arrested, beside the indictments and binding to the good behaviour. |
| 04/11/52 | 1 | Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Colonell Castell, Mr Crane, Mr John Russell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Cony, Mr Holeman, Mr Henne |
| 04/11/52 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Jekill and Mr Audry bee reteyned to draw a declaration upon Mr Latches opinion in writinge, and thereupon Mr Hales is desired to deliver his opinion. |
| 04/11/52 | 3 | Ordered that Peakirke dreyne bee scowred out 5 foote deepe and seaven foote be made in the bottom and 12 foote on the top, being from the devision dike that divide Thorney from Wisbich High Fenne to Guyhurne. And that a dam be sett over Peakirke dreyne where this worke is directed to begin, and the substantiall repayre hereof is recomended to Henry Fynnimore and Henry Curryer, and Mr Latch the comptroller is ordered to issue out warrants for the money that bee expended thereupon and the expendor is to pay the same accordingly |
| 04/11/52 | 4 | Ordered that that part of Peakirke dreyne from the beginning thereof about Burrough Fenne unto the Earle of Bedfords 20 foote dreyne in Thorney, bee substantially scowred out, that is to say 5 foote deepe, 7 foote broad in the bottome and 12 foote on the top. And the repayre thereof is recomended to Mr Richard Kendall, and Mr Latch, the comptroller, is ordered to issue out warrants for the moneyes shall bee expended thereupon. and the expendor is to pay the same accordingly |
| 06/11/52 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Crane, Mr Gorges, Mr Jessop, Mr Henry Henne, Mr William Weston, Mr John Russell, Mr John Arthur, Mr Browne, Mr Hampson |
| 06/11/52 | 2 | Ordered that a soone as Mr Hamond Ward hath sealed and perfected the conveyance now drawne and prepared by Mr Latch, that Mr Jessop the receivor forthwith paie unto him or his assigned the sum of £57 formerly agreed upon for cutting through his land accordinge to former order of 27th February last |
| 06/11/52 | 3 | Sir Thomas Cotton, this day acquainted the Companie that theire surveyour hath taken out of the Fennes, belonginge to Glatton and Holme in the County of |

Huntingdon, one thousand forty five acres, three roddees and three perches, whereas by the law of sewers made att St Ives, they are to have out of the said Fennes the quantity of a thousand and twelve acres and noe more. It is thereforre ordered that the surveyour doe againe admeasure the Adventurers parts and proportions that are taken out of the said Fennes, and if it doe appeare there is a greater quantity of lande taken out then is required by the said Law of Sewers, that then hee is to restore it, and if there bee a lesser quantity then by the said Law is required, that then hee is to make it up accordinge to the said Law of St Ives and accordinge to former order of the Companie. And the said Sir Thomas Cotton is to have tymley notice of when hee the said survey is to bee made

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| 06/11/52 | 4 | Whereas Mr John Russell is to have 200 acres out of Connington severalls of the greater fenne according to the Law of Sewers made att St Ives, but upon a late survey beinge found as was alledged, that there is 46 acres wanting or there abouts, bee it more of lesse, it is therefore ordered that Mr Moore, the surveyour, shall with all possible speede make a new survey thereof and make up what is wanting of the said 200 acres according to the said Law of Sewers, and Sir Thomas Cotton is to have tymely notice when the survey is to bee made, and Mr Moore to sett out the same unto the said John Russell Esqr |
| 06/11/52 | 5 | [Page 23] Upon the motion of Mr John Arthur, it is ordered that Mr Jessop the receiver repay unto him the sum of £12.10.00 which hee formerly paid, and thereupon the said Mr Arthur does agree to pay in his tax of 4d an acre towards the repayre and maintenance of the workes accordinge to the order of the Companie |
| 06/11/52 | 6 | Ordered that the expeditor Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood or his deputie shall have liberty to draw bills of exchange on Mr Jessop the receiver for any sum or sumes of money not exceedinge the sum of a thousand poundes |
| 11/11/52 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr John Arthur, Mr Browne, Mr William Crane, Mr Gorges, Mr William Weston, Mr Holeman, Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Thomas Alleyn, Mr Marsham, Mr Vermuyden |
| 11/11/52 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Hamond desires to take espetiall care that some sufficient and able person may bee employed in lookinge to and keepinge the sasse upon old Owse by Salters Lode and that such person, as is so entrusted therewith, doe obey Mr Hamonds orders and direction therein, to the ende that said sasse may bee tymely opened and the water thereby layd so low that noe floodes shall endanger the drowninge of the said levell. And it is further ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to take care that some trustie person may see the openinge of the sluces at Stowbridge that so the advantages of these sluces may not bee lost but that all the water they are able to carry away may be vented by them. And in case of any defecte, eyther in the said sasse or sluces, Mr Hamond is desired to take order that the same may be tymely repayed and amended. |
| 11/11/52 | 3 | Upon readinge of Mr Latches letter to Mr Jessop wherein hee mentions severall workes are contracted to the bee done on the south side of Bedford River, which will require a present necessity of expence of more money then the sum of £2500, the Company thinke fitt and order that the workes bee effectually proceeded in untill that sum bee exceeded. In the meane tyme, the officers below are to send up word forthwith what workes are contracted for to bee done on the south side of Bedford River over and above the said sum of £2500, whereupon they intende to make further order therein. |

- 11/11/52 4 Ordered that the Companie doe resolve to meete againe on Monday next at two a clocke in the afternoone to take unto consideration the settinge of another tax. as also the sale of the 5th lott.
- 15/11/52 1 Mr John Russell, Mr Say, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Jessop, Mr B Arthur, Earle of Bedford, Mr Trenchard, Mr John Arthur, Mr Buffkin, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Henry Henne, Colonell Castell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr William Crane, Mr Marsham, Mr Bradley, Mr Alleyn, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Alex Jones, Mr Vermuyden, Mr William Weston, Mr Gale, Mr Thomas Hampson, Mr Culpeper
- 15/11/52 2 Ordered that Mr St John and the members below bee desired with all convenient speede to send up to the Companie an estimate of what money is more to bee layd out and expended in the south side of Bedford River and above the sum of £2500, besides the charges of the sasse att Erith sallaryes, materials, the weare dike on the south banke of Bedford River and the payinge for severalls, to the intent the Companie may consider whether it will bee fitt to allow of them as a surplusage and above the sum of £2500
- 15/11/52 3 **[Page 24]** For as much as Mr Latch Is now resident upon the levell, it is ordered that the warranting of Mr Expenditor to issue monyes by imprest or otherwise bee left unto the said Mr Latch as it was formerly settled by the order of the Company, and that noe other person shall give such warrants till further direction, any former order notwithstandinge, whereof Mr Expenditor and all others herein concerned are to take notice.
- 15/11/52 4 Ordered that Mr Expenditor or his assigned shall have liberty and are hereby authorized to draw bills of exchange on Mr Jessop the receivor for any some not exceeding the sum of a thousand poundes, any former order of the Company to the contrary notwithstandinge.
- 15/11/52 5 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr St John and with an expresse to the members below as followeth

By some late letters from Mr St John, the Companie have received notice of the state of their busines below and finde that as some of the workes on the north side have byn prosecuted with lesse effecte then the exigence of their affayres required and by their former orders was enjoyned, so the charge of their workes will much exceede the sum expected. To the ende therefore they may bee able to give some certaine judgement of the expence that will for the present bee further requisite, and may accordingly make provision of money, It is the Companies desire that you will seriously consider what the charge of the remayninge workes on the north side and the remaynder of the £2500 for the south side will amounte unto, and what cash you may now suppose to remayne in the Country, and in both theis to certifie your opinions with the most speedy opportunitye, some resolutions of much concernement depending upon a retorne from you in theis two perticulers. The Companie are glad that March River is in so good a condition and that Marshland Cutt goes on so well. They hope noe opportunitye will bee omitted for the servinge of the north bancks of Bedford River (the danger of whose defects so frequently represented) and for perfectinge of Souldsey repayres, on which the safety of that part of the levell doth so much depend. For the better carrying on of theis workes, the Company have authorized Mr Expenditor to draw another £1000 by an order, whereof a copie is enclosed in duplicate, beinge also sent by this messenger to Mr Clamp for the sodaine conveyance, whereof to him or Mr Expenditor you are desired to give direction. The Companie did by a late order, desire a resolution whether the workes on the south side may expecte more then the £2500 formerly determyned of,

and doe now further desire your opinion what the sasse at Erith, the materials, sallaryes, and cutting of severalls, referring to the south side, and the were dike on the south of Bedford River new bancke may be estimated at in pointe of charges, that so they may consider whether it will bee fitt to allow of them as a surplusage above the £2500, wherein they suspend to give any determynation till this bee certified.

15/11/52 6 Ordered that on Monday next at two a clocke in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters landes in payne in their taxes.

15/11/52 7 Ordered that Tuesday the fowerteenth of December next bee appointed a publike and generall meetinge of the Companie to take into consideration the state of their affayes and effectuall progress of the workes, and Sir Cornelius Vermuden is desired to bee present.

18/11/52 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Henry Watkins, Mr Carill, Mr John Arthur, Mr Alleyn, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr William Crane, Mr Stanton, Mr Holman, Mr Jessop

18/11/52 2 **[Page 25]** Upon reading a letter from Mr St John, it is ordered that an answer and a returned of thanks bee sent unto him as followeth

Sir, the Companie have already received so reall a firmitie of your great and prudent care of their affayres below, that they apprehend themselves thereby very much obliged to a serious acknowledgement, which (in their names and by their order) wee doe hereby retorne you with this assurance that an opportunitye of testifyinge their thankfull sense hereof, by mutuall offices of respecte and service, will be very acceptable, hopinge with all that as you have already begun so you will please still to contynue your offer to make care of their interest untill the workes now in hand on the north side bee perfected which will further engage the Companie and amongst them

Your very affectionate friends to serve you

Bedford
John Arthur
John Carill
William Crane
William Say
Henry Henne
Robert Henley
William Underwood
Robert Castell

18/11/52 3 A petition delivered in this day by Captain Marsh on the behalfe of the towne of Swafham Bulbeck in the County of Cambridge was read over whereupon the Companie thought fitt to retorne this answer that on this day sennight they will take the same into consideration with which Mr Marsh was satisfied.

18/11/52 4 On reading Mr Latches and Mr Hamond, their letters of 13 and 15 November, desiring an explanation touching the Companies orders for expendinge of £2500 for the workes on the south side and noe more, ordered that a letter bee written to them to signifie the Companies sense that no works, though in the south levell, were intended within that sum, which were before or since made or directed in order to the securing of the north side, and that, whatever is or shall bee expended since the 14 June last (the date of the said order) for sasses, sallarys, materials, exemptions of land or other matters, merely referring to the south levell, is to bee considered part of

the said £2500. and that the Companie officers are in all payments for the southside to proceede accordingly

- 18/11/52 5 Upon reading of a letter from the expenditor, it is ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth

The Companie received your letter of 15 November instant together with the abstracte of the account and comanded mee to signifie unto you that it is farre from them to entertaine the report you mentioned touchinge the imployment of their money for your perticular service, and that they never had the same into debate before them and therefore they desire you to rest assured of their respecte. Since the last restraynment of bills, they have, by severall orders, warranted the drawing of £3000; the last whereof was dispatched hence by expresse last Tuesday, and havinge intymation from Mr St John that the drawinge of a 4th £1000 will bee necessary, they are also content the same should be drawne, but, in that case, you are desired to obteyne as much tyme as possibly may bee for payment that now att the ende of the yeare they may not bee put upon streights

- 18/11/52 6 Ordered that Mr Henley bee desired to write to Mr Latch about the defects in the north bancke of Moretons Leame and Croyland Bancke, that the Companie expressedly desire him to take the same into his serious consideration and order that the same bee speedily repayed. And touching the great abuse about the Sheyre dreyne intymated in a letter from Mr Hamond, Mr Latch is also desired to consider thereof and, upon due examination of their perticulers, to certifie to the Companie

- 18/11/52 7 **[Page 26]** Upon reading of a letter from Mr St John, ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth

I have comande from the Companie to signifie to you that they have considered of your letter to Mr Henley bearing date of 13 of this instant November, and as to the £2000, therein mentioned as necessary to bee further drawne for the Companies service, they comande mee to lett you know that by a messenger dispatched hence last Tuesday, an order was sent for the drawing of a third £1000, and as to the 4th for compleatinge the said £2000, you may depend thereon Only it is the Companies earnest request that you will favour them with your endeavors to gett as much tyme as may bee for payment of the bills, the taxes growinge towards and ende together with the yeare, which, if you shall also espetially recomende to the care of Mr Expenditor, it may not bee useles. An order was also sent last Tuesday for alteringe the matter of imprest mony which I hope is come to your handes.

- 22/11/52 1 Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Sir David Watkins, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Culpeper, Mr William Crane, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Jessop, Mr John Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr Marsham, Mr Samuell, Mr Carill, Mr Hampson, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Alleyn, Mr Bradley, Mr Browne

- 22/11/52 2 Whereas Sir Edward Partherich knight and John Trafford Esqr did make default in payinge in the two moyties of one 15d tax due 20th July and 20th August last, as also one 4d tax due the 16th October instant for their share or proportion of 2000 acres in the 16th lott, amountinge to the sum of £33.06.08, now forasmuch as the said 2000 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr William Crane Esquire, now being present, offered £300 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 2000 acres unto the said Mr William Crane and his heires to have and to hold the said 2000 acres,

unto him the said William Crane his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £36.06.08 and every part thereof, within a weeke next after the date hereof, bee paid unto the receivor of the Companie and the remayndor or surplusage over and above the said taxes and also part of the said purchase mony of £300 which is within the same tyme to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise, not only this order of sale to bee void, but also the said William Crane to incurre such penaltys as is enjoyned by former orders of the Companie. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee, the said William Crane shall have an assurance of the said 2000 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires, or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires

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| 22/11/52 | 3 | A question being put whether yea or noe the 5th lott shall now be exposed to sale, it was resolved in the affirmative. |
| 22/11/52 | 4 | Mr Jessop, acquaintinge the Companie that, of the taxes due before December 1651, £900 due for the 5th lott was paid him by Mr John Trenchard, Mr Robert Henley Snr and Mr Andrew Henley, as money deposited in respecte of a question about Sir Cornelius Vermuyden beinge obliged by his articles to pay taxes after £90000 expended about the dreyninge. The said Mr Trenchard, Mr Robert Henley and Andrew Henley doe declare that they are content the said £900 should bee accounted as paid by them, due <i>bene esse</i> in lieu of so much taxes due when the same was deposited |
| 22/11/52 | 5 | [Page 27] Whereas default is made in paying in the severall 15d taxes due and payable 1 December, 25 March, 26 Aprill, 20th and 21st August, and also one 4d tax due the 16th October last for one lott or share of 4000 acres, being the 5th lott, amountinge to the sum of £1066.12.04, now forasmuch as the said lott or 4000 acres was this day exposed to sale and Mr Say Esquire, now being present, offered £8000 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes as shall grow due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said lott or 4000 acres unto the said William Say and his heires to have and to hold the said 2000 acres unto him, the said William Say, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £1066.12.04 be within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid unto Mr Jessop, the receivor of the Companie, otherwise this order of sale is not only to bee void but also the said Mr Say to incurre such penaltys as is enjoyned by former orders of the Companie, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said William Say shall have an assurance of the said 4000 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires, or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires |
| 22/11/52 | 5 | Ordered that on Thursdaie next a two a clocke in the afternoone, the Companie doe resolve to take into consideration the sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in the last tax of 4d an acre. And likewise, on Monday next, to take into consideration the laying a new tax. |
| 25/11/52 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Crane, Sir David Watkins, Mr Walker, Mr Trafford, Mr Trenchard, Mr Gale, Mr William Weston, Mr Bradley, Mr Marsham, Mr Browne, Mr Carill, Mr Carill, Mr Lane, Mr B.Arthur |
| 25/11/52 | 2 | Ordered that Mr St John bee desired to speake with Mr Diglie that keepes the two sluces at Clowed Crosse dreyne and (upon examination), if it does appeare hee hath byn faithfull in his trust to allow him such satisfaction as hee shall thinke fitt and a |

letter is to be written to him accordingly.

- 25/11/52 3 Ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to take care that some able and sufficient person or persons may bee employed in lookinge to the sluice at Russell Hill, the sasse at the Hermitage and the takinge away the weres sett on the rivers of the south levell, and such person or persons shall onely bee employed as Mr Hamond shall thinke fitt and every such person or persons shall obey his orders and directions therein, and to this purpose a letter is to bee sent to him.
- 25/11/52 4 **[Page 28]** Upon reading of the severall orders touching Sir David Watkins, Mr Henry Henne and Mr Hampson, it is ordered that on the 14 of December next (being the day of publique meeting of the Companie) shall bee a tyme to heare all the said parties touching the differences between them.
- 25/11/52 5 Upon readinge Sir Cornelius Vermuydens letter to the Companie, it is ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth.
- That in regard there was an arrere of taxes upon the 5th lott of £1066.13.04, which the Companie had occasion for toe goe on with theire workes, they have sold the said land for payment thereof as is usuall in other cases accordinge to the Acte of Parliament.
- 29/11/52 1 Mr Say, Mr John Arthur, Mr Alex Jones, Mr Lane, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Cony, Mr Walker, Mr William Weston, Colonell Sydney, Mr John Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Hampson Jnr, Mr Carill, Mr Hampson Snr
- 29/11/52 2 Upon readinge the draft of an order made on Monday last touching the sale of the 5th lott, it is ordered that the said order bee entered into the booke of orders of the Companie
- 29/11/52 3 Whereas Mr Latch this day delivered in to the Company a perticuler estimate of the cash below in the expeditors handes, which was compared with the cash hereabouts, and it, appearing that there was £976 or thereabouts below, it is ordered that a letter bee written to Mr St John by Mr Henley and a copie of the said perticuler is to bee there enclosed, sent by us to him to end he may examyn the same and certifie the Companie
- 02/12/52 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Trafford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr John Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr William Crane, Mr Brown, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Hampson Jnr, Mr Hampson Snr, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr William Weston, Mr Carrill, Mr Walker
- 02/12/52 2 Ordered that in the absence of Mr Latch, Mr St John bee desired. and hee is hereby authorized, to give warrants to the expeditor for payment of mony upon contracts, and hee shall have the same power touching the comptroll as Mr Latch formerly had.
- 02/12/52 3 Whereas the Companie, takinge into consideration the necessity of laying another tax in order of dreyninge the Great Levell, doe hereby thinke fitt and order that a tax of 15d an acre bee sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres in the Act of Parliament, mentioned as well upon the 80000 acres comprysed in the 20 lotts or shares, each share conteyninge 4000 acres, as upon the 2000 acre parcell of the said 95000 acres mentioned in the Act of Parliament lately assigned to Benjamyn Weston Esqr, his heires and assigned, and the said tax is hereby sett and imposed accordingly and ordered to bee paid to the officers of the treasury or the handes of the receivor

of the Company for the tyme beinge at Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex, in manner following viz - the 7d of one moytie thereof, on or before the 9th day of December instant, and 7d on the other moytie thereof on or before the 13th of December instant untill the said tax or 15d an acre are every part thereof bee fully satisfyed and paid, and in default of payment of the 1st moytie of 7d an acre payable, as aforesaid, the landes of such defaulters are hereby ordered to bee sold at or upon the 14 day of December instant or at any other subsequent meeting of the Company, and in default of payment of the other moytie or 7d an acre, payable as aforesaid, the landes of such defaulters are hereby ordered to bee sold at or upon the 28th day of December instant, or at any other subsequent meeting of five or more of the Adventurers and Participants at the place aforesaid.

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| 02/12/52 | 4 | [Page 29] Memorand. To take into consideration the busines between Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the Companie touchinge the 5 th lott on the 14 th December 1652 which is the generall meeting of the Companie |
| 02/12/52 | 5 | The Companie doe agree to meete again tomorrow in the afternoone to consider the busines to bee done on Monday next att the meeting of the Comissioners in the Middle Temple Hall. |
| 04/12/52 | 1 | Mr Gorges, Mr Carill, Mr Lane, Mr Browne, Mr henely Snr, Major Blake, Mr William Crane |
| 04/12/52 | 2 | Memorand to make an extracte of the Law of St Ives touching highwaies and bridges and the clarke is to present this same to the Companie att theire next meetinge. |
| 04/12/52 | 3 | Upon the motion of Mr William Crane, it is ordered that all such persons, members of the Company as have attended and contynued att all meetinges until 20 th August last, which was the tyme they adjourned to London, shall, in pursuance of a former order, have perticularly allowed and paid unto them by the receivour of the Companye 10s per diem upon certificate of the clarke of the Companie under his hande that every such member hath so constantly attended as aforesaid. |
| 09/12/52 | 1 | Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr W.Crane, Mr Henne, Mr Culpeper, Mr Latch, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Drewrey, Mr Neale, Mr Carill, Mr Browne |
| 09/12/52 | 2 | Whereas on the 28 th of August last, it was ordered that Mr Jonas Moore and Anthony Ringwood, or one of them, should forthwith lett out the removeinge of the dams, stoppes and gravells from Whittlesey Mere to that part of Pophams Eau which was lately opened in such manner that in the places there such stoppes might hold proportion in depth with the rest of the river, and were impowered to make contracts for the same, which beinge confirmed by one of the superintendants, should bee valid, and that a copie of such contracte was to bee left with Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood who was desired to see the same performed effectually from Whittlesey Mere to Maney towne. And whereas the said Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood did estimate the charge thereof to amounte but to the sum of £100, or thereabouts, since which tyme the Companie have byn credibly informed that the charge thereof allready comes to about £400, and that it is all done by daies workes and not by contracts, according to the former order that same being a greater charge and expence to the Companie and contrary to theire intention, it is therefore ordered that the removeing of the dams, stoppes and gravells shall for the present bee forborne and that nothing more bee acted or done therein untill the Companie shall further order, any former order notwithstandinge. |

09/12/52	3	<p>[Page 30] Ordered that the highway and dreyne on each side of new Honey bee contynued from Blocke Fen Loade and brought through Normoore towards and unto Vermuyden Eau, the shortest and most convenient way, and that Mr Moore forthwith sett it out and Mr Hammond is desired to see the doing of it</p> <p>Highwaies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 One way from Bedford River nere Welnea to Westtmoore causeway nere Littleport 2 An other way leading from Upwood Hardes called Botton Hill unto Whittlesea 3 One other way heading from Peakirke meadow unto Guyhurne 4 And the other way heading from the hard landes of Chartris called Wenny Hill to the way in Sutton ground leading to Sutton Gault <p>Every of the said waies to conteyne 60 foote in breadth betweene their sewers dreyne or were dikes</p> <p>Bridges</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 One bridge over the new river called Bedford River at Sutton Gault 2 One other bridge over the said new river at Mepall towne 3 One other bridge over the said river nere Oxwillow lande 4 And one other bridge over the said new river at Welnea towne
09/12/52	4	<p>In regards all waies and pasages are to bee sett forth before adjudication, it is ordered that the waies and bridges above named bee forthwith lockspitted, and that such other waies as the gent Adventurers in the Country or any two of them shall thinke convenient, bee also forthwith sett forth and lockspitted, and that where any Adventurers land shall be diminished by the said waies that other landes bee sett forth and lockspitted in recompence thereof.</p>
09/12/52	5	<p>Ordered upon reading Mr Hamonds letter that a letter bee in the name of the Companie written and sent by the clarke unto him to signifie unto him that they did all agree that the workes in the southside should goe on and be prosecuted with effecte although the £2500 bee exceeded, and to that purpose the last tax was layd and payable in so short a tyme</p>
09/12/52	6	<p>Ordered that Mr John Turner and Mr Richard Kendall, or one of them, bee desired forthwith to send up the Companie here above the last direction in writinge given by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden for the doinge of the Sheyre Dreyne, together with the copie of the contracte made thereupon. In the meane tyme, it is ordered that stop bee made of payment of any more mony for doing the dreyne untill the Companie further order, of which the Companie officers below are to take notice.</p>
14/12/52	1	<p>Earle of Bedford, Lord St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Mr Culpeper, Mr Long, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Latch, Mr Adams, Mr Drewry, Mr Bufkin, Mr Bondley, Mr Gorges, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Lane, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Holman, Mr Fountayne, Mr Crane, Mr Carill, Mr Walker, Mr Thomas Hampson, Mr Trenchard, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Mr St John</p>
14/12/52	2	<p>[Page 31] Ordered that the contracts about the Sheyre dreyne bee referred to Mr Latch, Mr St John, Mr Carill and Mr Culpeper or any two of them, and they are desired to consider and examyn the same and certifie to the Companie their opinions therein</p>

- 14/12/52 3 Ordered that it bee referred to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the members of the comptroll to consider whether it bee best to sett a sluice or lay a tonnell att the end of Elme Leame next Wisbich and to take into consideration the dimentions and to agree about the doing thereof as they shall find best for the good of the Companie
- 14/12/52 4 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr St John, Mr Latch, Mr Adams and Mr Carill or any two of them to consider of imbezillinge the Companies materialls, what course is to bee taken for the tyme past and what method and way to be used for preservation thereof for the tyme to come. And to that purpose, they are hereby authorized to call before them all such officers of the Companie as have had the care and keepinge thereof and call them to an account and hereof to certifie the Companie
- 14/12/52 5 Ordered that it bee referred to Sir Cornelius Vermuden and the members of the comptroll to consider how to bring the waters of the meeres from Whittlesey to theire outfall and how to prevent the sluffs up at the mouth of the mere
- 14/12/52 6 Ordered upon the question
- That some persons bee sent downe into the whole levell on the southside of Bedford River to view the same and the workes done or designed to be done thereupon to consider thereof, and what is further to bee done for the perfecte dreyninge of that levell, together with the whole estimate of the charge thereof
- 14/12/52 7 Resolved upon the question
- That such person or persons as shall goe downe shall retorne theire certificate up to the Companie
- 14/12/52 8 Resolved upon the question
- That the Companie doe nominate such persons as shall goe downe in to the levell for the purpose aforesaid
- 14/12/52 9 Ordered the Thursday next at 8 a clocke in the morning bee a tyme appointed to take againe into consideration the whole south levell and the workes done or designed to bee done thereupon. And in the mean tyme Mr Jessop is desired to draw up a perticuler of the cash and what mony is in the treasury, together with a note of theire officers sallaryes
- 16/12/52 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief St John, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Colonell Sydney, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Gorges, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden Mr Edward Russell, Sir David Watkins, Mr Latch, Mr Thomas Hampson, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Neale, Mr Drewry, Mr William Weston, Mr Bufkin, Mr St John, Mr Thurloe, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Alexander Blake, Mr Crane, Mr Culpeper, Mr Alderman Henley, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Holman, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Jessop, Mr Bradley, Mr Thomas Matthews, Mr Lane, Mr Browne
- 16/12/52 2 Ordered upon the question that the workes on the south side of Bedford River designed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and debated in att Elie in writinge shall bee prosecuted with effecte unles the Companie or the comptroll shall give further order therein
- 16/12/52 3 **[Page 32]** A question was putt whether that the workes designed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee sufficient to demand judgement.

Another question was put whether that question shall bee putt yea or noe. It was resolved in the negative.

A question was also putt whether or noe the consideration of the workes on the south side of the Bedford River shall bee referred to the comptroll. It was resolved in the negative.

Ordered upon the question

That is bee referred to Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partheriche, Robert Castell, Mr St John (members of the Company) or any three of them to consider whether the workes done or designed to bee done as aforesaid on the south side of Bedford River bee sufficient for dreyninge thereof both to secure it against the fower rivers and to carry away the rivuletts and brookes to the downfall, and if they are not satisfied therein then to bringe in and propound their owne opinions what it to bee done and an estimate of the charge thereof.

Resolved upon the question that Mr Thomas Culpepper bee added to the members of the Companie above named, and they or any three of them are desired to call the assistance of whome they shall thinke fitt, and the Companie doe hereby desire they would with all convenient speede repayre into the levell for the purpose aforesaid.

Ordered that the Companie doe meete againe tomorrow morning at nyne a clocke.

17/12/52 1 Mr John Russell, Mr W.Crane, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Holman, Mr Lane, Mr Hampson, Mr Say, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henery Henne, Mr Jessop, Mr Browne

17/12/52 2 Upon readinge of a letter from Mr Hamond, it is ordered that the clarke write a letter to Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood touchinge the openinge of the mouths of the meres as followeth viz -

Upon readinge of a letter from Mr Hamond about openinge the mouths of the meres, I was comanded to signifie unto you that they finde it very chargeable and they feare likely so to prove (as they are enformed the estimate at first came but to £100). It is now encreased to £400 and they have allready expended so much. Now in regard, the same is comitted to your care, they earnestly desire you would examyn the same and find out the reason of this expence, and so order and provide that the outfall may bee of such use and service as the Companie may not loose that cost and charge they have byn att, and likewise doe desire you to send up an estimate of the charge in makinge the dreynes usefull and what workes are necessary to bee done in order thereunto, together with the dimensions thereof and certifie the Companie. I have sent you the copie of the postscript of Mr Hamonds letter which hath also occasioned the order enclosed.

17/12/52 3 The Companie, takinge into consideration of the last order of refference touchinge the layinge or settinge of a tonnell or sluice on Elme Leame, it is ordered to bee referred to Mr Latch and Mr Moore who are hereby impowered to treat with the towne of Wisbich touchinge the same, and in regard Sir Cornelius Vermuyden now present does consent to the settinge of the sluice there, the Company for accomodation of the said towne doe consider thereunto so as the towne of Wisbich doe undertake from tyme to tyme to repayre the same and take care to scowre out the said leame at all tymes when it is silted up.

- 17/12/52 4 **[Page 33]** Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond as follloweth
- Upon readinge your letter to the Companie, it was appointed to retorne answer that Mr Latch will, god willinge, bee at Elie on Tuesday att night next and then and there shall expect to heare from you upon any occasion touchinge the comptroll and against the next paie daies bee ready to attend the same. And upon readinge your former letter touchinge an adjudication, a copie of the order I have here enclosed sent you, whereby you may perceive the workes are on the south side of Bedford River reffered to severall members of the Companie to consider whether that bee sufficiently done, amongst which you are one. They intend all to meete about Tuesday next come sennight upon the levell. Touchinge Elme Leame, the Companie have made an order which I have also here enclosed sent you, together with the rules of the Companie for going effectually on with the workes on the south side designed at Elie by Sir Cornelius Vermuydenm with his letter also enclosed, directed to yourselfe and a copie of Sir Cornelius Vermuydens design delivered in att Elie
- 17/12/52 5 Ordered that a letter be written to Colonell Castell as followeth
- The Companie, after a long debate, in order to an effectuall progres of the workes in the south side of Bedford River, have made some resolve and order wherein you are made choice of amongst some others to take a view of the workes allready done or designed to bee done by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden on that side of Bedford River, and to consider whether the same are sufficient as to demand an adjudication thereupon, in pursuance of which resolve and orders Sir Edward Partherich and the rest of the members therein named (god willing) intend to meete on the levell about Tuesday senninght next. Whereupon the Companie desire you would be pleased, in the mean tyme, to order and dispose of your occasions as to be ready upon notice about that tyme in writinge to be sent, and you to give them a meetinge. I have here enclosed sent you the resolve and orders.
- 17/12/52 6 Ordered that Mr Latch doe take care the workemen which did the worke of the Sheyre dreyne and are yet unpaid and who have desired but 3s 6d a pole the utmost for the doinge thereof, may bee paid, but for any other paiements to any the pretended takers of those workes, the same to be forborne, and Mr Latch and the members below are desired to examyn the perticulers and certifie the Companie whereupon such further order shall bee made as they shall thinke fitt.
- 24/12/52 1 Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Say, Mr William Crane, Mr John Russell, Mr Culpeper, Mr Browne
- 24/12/52 2 Ordered that Mr Latch bee desired to take care to certifie the Companie here above the names of all the officers in the Country below and to send up word what officers may be discharged and how many are fitt to bee contynued in the Companies service, and likewise, the said Mr Latch shall have power, and hee is hereby desired, to stop the sallary of every officer untill hee hath given an account of the money and materialls remayning in his handes and comitted to his care untill they have respectively performed what is under their charge. And it is further ordered that Mr Latch bee also desired to call upon Richard Kendall of Crowland and demand of his £100 of the Companies mony which is in his handes
- 24/12/52 3 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore, the surveyour, signifying that whereas complaintt hath byn made by diverse members of the Companie that their landes allotted to them fall short of measure of the quantity they are to have and whereas also the Companie have, in such cases, ordered that hee is to supply the same by takinge other land next adjoyninge to make up the full proportion according to St Ives

Law but in regard they are enformed that there are many proportions of land not yet surveyed nor certified, the [Page 34] Companie therefore would have him, with all speede, to measure and survey the same and where hee findes a waie of measure there to supply by the same as aforesaid, and where there is a surplusage there to leave it out according to the order formerly sent downe unto him.

24/12/52 p.m 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Long, Mr Fountayne, Mr Holman, Sir Alderman Alleyn, Colonell William Smith, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Downing, Mr Gale, Mr Marsham, Mr William Weston, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Adams, Mr Walker, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Jessop, Colonell Sydney, Mr Thurloe, Mr Adam Titchborne, Mr Say, Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Browne, Mr Culpeper, Mr Henne, Mr Robert Henley Snr

24/12/52 p.m 2 A question then arose whether that the validity of the votes and orders of the Companie from hence forward shall consist in the interests and proportions of the parties to such votes according to their number of acres

A question was put whether that question shall bee put yea or now. It was resolved in the affirmative.

24/12/52 p.m 3 Resolved upon the question

That the validity of all votes and orders of the Companie hereafter shall consist in the interest and proportion against the parties to such votes according to their number of acres

24/12/52 p.m 4 Resolved upon the question

That Mr Thurloe and Mr Jessop be desired to draw up an order in pursuance of the aforesaid vote and forthwith present the same to the Companie which was accordingly done as followeth viz -

Whereas a great part of the 95000 acres allotted unto the Earle of Bedford, his Participants and Adventurers for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fens is by several meane assignments conveyed and assigned over in severall proportions into very many handes who all havinge 200 acres or above clayme vote on the orderinge, manageinge and governinge of the workes of dreyninge which the Companie, takinge into consideration and also what manner to regulate their votes for the future, have thought it most just and equall that the vote of every member of the Companie should bee accordinge to his interest and therefore doe hereby order that from hence forth all debates and questions in the Companie bee determynd not by the number of votes present, as of late it hath byn, but accordinge to the quantitie and number of acres which those present have in the 95000 acres, that is today those present that have the greater number of acres parcell of the said 95000 acres shall in all debates and questions, as aforesaid, overtake them that have the lesser number of acres without any respecte had to the number of Adventurers present voices given, bee they eyther fewer or more on the one side or other. And all orders and resolutions shall be entered and registered by the clark of the Companie for the tyme beinge according to the mynde and sense of those shall be present that have as aforesaid the greater quantity of acres although they bee fewer in number then those of a contrary mynde. And forasmuch as there were present at the settlinge of this order, Adventurers that are owners of above 30000 acres, it is therefore ordered that this order shall not be altered revoked suspended or impeached but by so many of the Adventurers and Participants as are owners of 55000 parcell of the said 95000 acres at least.

- 24/12/52 p.m 5 **[Page 35]** And it is further ordered at the said sitting that noe Adventurer or Participant under the proportion of 200 acres of the said Adventurers land shall have vote or voice in any debates questions or orders touchinge the affayres of the Companie. And that every Adventurer or owner of a lesser proportion then 200 acres shall bee att liberty, under his hand in writing, to authorize and appointe any other person beinge an Adventurer for 200 acres of grownd or more, for him and on his behalfe, to vote and to have voice in any the debates and resolutions touching the affayres of the Companie. And that the vote of such person to whome such authority and appointment shall bee made or given shall be binding and effectuall accordinge to such proportion of land as the person that shall make such assignment or deputation, and to whome such assignment or deputation is made, shall have in the said Adventure.
- 24/12/52 p.m 5 Resolved upon the question
- That Mr Jonas Moore and Mr Barber bee added to Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Castell, Mr St John and Mr Culpeper and that they, or any three of them, are desired to take a view on the workes designed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden on the south side of Bedford River and consider whether they bee sufficient for dreyninge thereof accordinge to the order of the 16th December instant and certifie theire opinions herein.
- 24/12/52 p.m 6 Ordered that on Wednesdaie att night next, the said members and parties, above named, are desired to meete att the Signe of the Rose in Cambridge and from there repayre to the levell for the purpose aforesaid whereas they are to have notice and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is also desired to meete there.
- 27/12/52 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Mr William Weston, Mr Neale, Mr Andrew Henley
- 27/12/52 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore the surveyour as followeth viz -
- Mr Moore - I am comanded by the Companie to lett you know that they doe relie on you that you bee very carefull to satisfye yourselfe and accordingly the Companie, of all ways that are necessary to bee layd out to each perticular parcell of land on the north side that upon the second judgement, which is shortly intended to bee for the south side, these wayes may bee included in the judgement to bee had on the south side. This is of very great consequence and your owne reason will guide you to it and it is so necessary that without it the Company can have noe benefitt of the north side landes. The Company formerly directed theire letters to you to this effect but because you may not pretend any neglecte therein, they send again to you of which they expecte that you bee ready when they shall send to you to come up about it which must bee before a judgement on the south side and that they hope it will not bee longe, and that at your first opportunity you lett them know what progresse you made therein allready.
- 27/12/52 p.m 1 **[Page 36]** Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Henne, Mr Bradley, Mr Alleyn, Mr Browne, Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Staunton, Mr Walker, Mr Neale, Mr Andrew Henley
- 12/01/52 1 Ordered that the Companie be warned to meete at 8 a clocke in the morninge of Satterday next to take into consideration the severall letters together with an estimate of the workes on the south side in order to an adjudication.

- 15/01/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Gorges, Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Bradley, Mr Trafford, Mr Alleyn, Mr Staunton, Mr Thurloe, Mr W.Smith, Mr Walker, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Say, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Neale, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Browne
- 15/01/53 2 Ordered that it be recommended to the care and discretion of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and such others as hee shall thinke fitt to advise with upon the place to directe and appointe how much foreland is necessary and fitt to bee layd out to every bancke so as it exceede not 60 foote in breadth and to see the same lockspittted out accordingly.
- 15/01/53 3 Whereas the Companie, takinge into consideration the effectual carryinge on and compleatinge the workes of dreyning the Great Levell as well on the north as on the south side of Bedford River, doe hereby thinke fitt and order that a tax of 2s 6d an acre bee sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres in the Acte of Parliament mentioned, as well upon the 80000 acres, comprised in the 20 lotts or shares (each share conteyning 4000 acres), as upon the 2000 acres (parcell of the said 95000 acres in the said Acte of Parliament lately assigned to Benjamyn Weston Esquire his heirs and assigned), and the said tax is hereby sett and imposed accordingly and ordered to bee paid to the officers at the treasury by the handes of the receivor of the Companie for the tyme beinge at Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex, att three severall payments in the manner followinge viz – 7d 06 an acre for the first payment thereof, on or before the 25th daie of February next ensuinge and 1s 3d an acre for the second payment thereof on or before the 25th daie of March next and 7d 06 for the third payment thereof on or before the 25th of Aprill now next ensuring, untill the said tax or 2s 6d an acre and every part thereof bee fully satisfyed and paid. And in default of payment of the first part or 7d 06 an acre, payable as aforesaid, the lands of such defaulters are hereby ordered to bee sold att or upon the first daie of March next or at any other subsequent meetinge of the Companie. And in default of payment of the 2nd part or 1s 6d an acre payable, as aforesaid, the landes of such defaulters are hereby ordered to be sold att or upon the first daie of Aprill next or att any other subsequent meeting of the Company. And in default of payment of the third and last part of 7d 06 an acre payable, as aforesaid, the landes of such defaulters are hereby ordered to bee sold att or upon the 2nd day of May next or at any other subsequent meetinge of five or more of the Company of Adventurers and Participants att the place aforesaid.
- 15/01/53 4 **[Page 37]** The Companie, beinge informed that the workemen and overseers in the Great Levell of the Fennes have byn very negligent and remisse in performinge theire respective services ever since Mr St John's retorne from there and, thereupon, they finde not that fruite and effect of the works as justly they might expecte they doe, therefore hereby thinke fitt and order that Mr St John bee desired to dispose of his occasions as to bee pleased to take another journey into the levell to see the workes effectually prosecuted and completed, to which purpose hee is hereby absolutely authorized to acte and put in execution to all intents and purposes whatsoever as he was formerly impowered to doe in and by the order of the Company of the 23rd October last, and Mr Thurloe is desired to acquaint him with this order and in the name of the Company to retorne him thanks for his great trouble and care of the workes formerly.
- 15/01/53 5 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to draw up a letter of thankses to Mr St John with request of the Companie to him to take the paynes to goe againe into the levell for the purpose aforesaid which was done accordingly.

- 15/01/53 6 Resolved upon the question that letters bee written to Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond and Mr Jonas Moore to see the workes, hereafter followinge, effectually done and from tyme to tyme to give the Companie an account thereof, that is to say Waldersea Bancke, Downham Eau, Marshland Cutt, the 16 Foote Dreyne and Pophams Eau.
- 15/01/53 7 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr St John, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr Thurloe, Mr Marsham and Mr Jessop, or any two of them, to examyn the miscarriages of such officers as have byn and are for the present employed in the workes of dreyninge the Great Levell, some perticulers whereof the Companie have byn allready acquainted with and to state the matter of facte thereof and likewise to take into their consideration in what way and manner to put the vigorous and effectuall doeinge of the workes yet to bee done as well on the north as south side for the future, as well as in respecte of officers to be employed there as otherwise, so as may bee for the ease of the Companie in pointe of charge and for the good of the workes and to present their opinions their upon on Thursday morning next to the Company
- 15/01/53 8 Ordered that letters bee written to the members below to send up the names of the offenders about the busines of Swafham, together with the witnesses that can make oath of the matter of facte and such instructions whereby the Companie may be enabled to declare against them.
- 15/01/53 9 Ordered that all such gent members of the Companie that lately went downe to take a view of the workes and that are not under sallary of the Companie shall have perticularly paid and allowed unto them by the receivor of the Companie ten poundes apeece towards their charges and expences.
- 15/01/53 10 Ordered that Mr Robert Henley Jnr shall have allowed and paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie the sum of £5 towards his charges in his late journey into the levell in August last, and this shall bee the receivers warrant.
- 15/01/53 11 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr St John, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr Thurloe, Mr Marsham and Mr Jessop, or any two of them, to consider what is fitt to bee allowed to severall members of the Companie as did attend att some of the meetinges in the Country In August last and were not present att all the Companies meetinges accordinge to the precise wordes of the order made the 5th of August last.
- 20/01/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Holman, Mr Staunton, Mr Culpeper, Mr Smith, Mr Blake, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Neale, Mr Trenchard, Mr Trafford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr William Weston, Mr Latch, Mr Wolworthy, Mr Say, Mr Walker, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Bradley
- 20/01/53 2 **[Page 38]** In pursuance of the order of refference of 14th January instant touchinge the miscarriage of officers employed in the workes, Mr Jessop made report from the committee as followeth:
- That John Hatton and Robert Pinchback, intrusted with the issueinge of materialls, appeare to the committee to have byn very fayling of their duty but the perticuler examynation thereof is fitt to be done on the place. Therefore that it bee respited till the auditt, att which tyme a charge is to bee given them of the severall sorts and quantityes of materialls delivered them to which their answer is to bee required.
- 20/01/53 3 It appeares that John Cooley, beinge entrusted to take up workes, hath certified more money to bee payable to the workemen then was indeede due, and havinge Marshland Cutt comitted to his spetiall care by Mr St John att his last coming from the Levell, beinge aboutt the ende of November last, it hath byn certified that for a month

after hee had not byn upon the workes which argues his negligence.

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| 20/01/53 | 4 | George Barnes hath used, to lett out, take up and paie of workes, which method is not fitt to be allowed, and it is conceived fitt for examynation whether himselfe have not byn also a taker of workes whereby his proceedings will be rendered more dangerous to the Companies profitt and service. |
| 20/01/53 | 5 | Edmund Welch is conceived able, but slow and not dilligently attendent upon the workes under his charge, being also much diverted from the Companies service by his own private occasions. |
| 20/01/53 | 6 | Anthony Ringwood was under some suspension from imployment for false takinge up of workes but beinge referred, he hath since carryed himselfe well |
| 20/01/53 | 7 | Goodson is imployed to looke to the west and south bancke of Bedford River and carryed himself without exception. |
| 20/01/53 | 8 | Jeffrey Hawkins not fitt, to bee discontinued. |
| 20/01/53 | 9 | Arthur Tench the clarke comptroller appears himself honest able and fitt to be contunued. |
| 20/01/53 | 10 | Thomas Moore the clarke of the contracts is an officer useles, and besides, hee hath not managed his place with due respect to the endes for which hee was byn imployed, being seldome present att the makinge of contracts, though by his instructions hee ought to bee present at all (when hee hath byn in the behalfe required), nor byn able to give an account of whats under his charge and therefore the committee conceives it may not bee improper to dissolve his busines upon Mr Tench and to make some additionall allowance to Mr Tench in repecte thereof. |
| 20/01/53 | 11 | William Palmer is seldome observed to bee upon the workes |
| 20/01/53 | 12 | Richard Kendall who with Mr Tavener was to oversee the Sheyre Dreyne did lett it on the first contracte at 14s a rod, the first taker lett it to others at 5s 6d, the 2nd taker to others att 2s 6d and at the rate the workemen made by their workes 2s 6d a day, and therefore hee is considered unfitt to bee imployed further. |
| 20/01/53 | 13 | John Farmer, the committee conceived not fitt, to be discontinued |
| 20/01/53 | 14 | Henrie Fynnimore is a stoute man but in other respectes not well quallified for the Companies service. |
| 20/01/53 | 15 | And to the management of the workes on the south side, the Committee conceived it fitt that |

1 The respective workes bee fixed upon the care of fitt persons to whome the perticuler oversight thereof is to be comitted.

2 That the workes bee opertunely layd together in order to their better management by persons to whose care they shall bee comitted respectively.

3 The committee is of opinion that the south levell bee distributed into 4 devisions each of which to be comitted to the care and oversight of a perticuler person as aforesaid

- 20/01/53 16 That the 1st devision, there be designed the works as sett forth by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd levell viz - the deepening of Downham Eau, the imbankment of Stoke River and all the workes to be done thereupon, as also all the workes betwixt Norfolk high grownd and Stoake River and betwixt Norfolke high grownd and Brandon River
- 20/01/53 17 The 2nd devision, the imbankinge of Brandon River and all the workes to bee done thereupon as also in the levell betwixt Brandon and Mildenhall River, the imbankinge of Mildenhall River and all the workes betwixt Mildenhall River, Ouze and Soham high growndes
- 20/01/53 18 **[Page 39]** To the 3rd devision, all the workes betwixt Wicken and Clayhive, the highway from Wicken to Reach Lode, the draines betwixt Erith and Harrimere and generally all other workes in that part of the south side which is distinguished by the 6 and 7 levells.
- 20/01/53 19 To the 4 devision, the indreyne from the south banke of new Bedford River to Maydloade and so to the old Ouze, the highway from Littleport to Salters Loade, Grunty Fen dreyne and the highwayes from Wellney to Littleport Coveney from Downham to Pymore plain and from Mepall to Welches dam and all workes directed in the 8th levell
- 20/01/53 20 Touchinge the demande of allowance by severall members of the Companie that were not at all meetinges of the Companie in August last, accordinge to the precise wordes of the order it was resolved upon the question that the first order of the 1st of August last should stand and no further order to bee minded thereupon
- 20/01/53 21 It is conceived by all those that made the certificate, as well as Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Latch, now present, that the workes from Downham Eau up to Brandon should and ought to be comitted to the care of a fitt person to make it his oneley workes.
- 20/01/53 22 Resolved upon the question that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour shall have the care and oversight of the workes from Downham Eau to Brandon and all the workes of the 1st Devision, mentioned in the Comittees report, and Edmund Welch is to attende the said devision constantly and hee is to receive and pursue such direction as hee shall from tyme to tyme receive from the said Mr Jonas Moore, makinge the same his whole busines. And they are to take perticuler care that the fresh water dores be forthwith made for Stow Bridge.
- 20/01/53 23 Resolved upon the question that Anthony Hamond Esquire shall have the care and oversight of all the residue of the three devisions in the southside of Bedford River, and Mr George Barnes is to pursue such directions from Mr Hamond and they are particulerly to take care of removeinge all weres and stopps as well in the River Grant as other rivers.
- 20/01/53 24 Resolved upon the question that the order for discharge of the undersurveyour, made att Peterborough the 20th of August last, shall stand and be of force to all intents and purposes.
- 20/01/53 25 Resolved upon the question that Henry Fynnimore bee hence forth discharged from havinge any more to doe in the Companyes service, and it is reffered to Major Blake and Mr John Turner to nominate and appointe some fitt person to have the oversight and care of the south bancke of Moretons Leame and the overtoe.

20/01/53	26	Ordered that the report of the comittee as touchinge Pinchbacke and Hatton bee confirmed.
20/01/53	27	Order that Mr Thomas Moore shall with all covncenient speede informe himselfe what materialls are in the handes of Pinchbacke and Hatton as also such as are att Erith or in any other parts of the levell, and hee is to take perticuler inventoryes thereof, and all persons in whose custodie or care are any materialls are hereby required to permitt and suffer him to take account thereof to the intent hee may retorne duplicates thereof to the Companie
20/01/53	28	Resolved upon the question that accordinge to the report of the Committee, Richard Kendall bee discharged forthwith from the Companies service.
20/01/53	29	Ordered that Major Alexander Blake bee desired to take into his care and oversight the severall workes were comitted to Mr St John and to that purpose hee is to have copies of all the particuler orders touchinge the severall workes in case Mr St John cannot bee prevayled with all to goe into the levell.
22/01/53	1	Mr Latch, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Say, Mr Gorges, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Willam Crane, Mr Henry Henne
22/01/53	2	[Page 40] Ordered that Mr Walter St John shall have presented unto him a dozen of silver plates as a gratuity for his paines and trouble when hee was lately upon the workes, which the Companie desire hee would bee pleased to accept of as an acknowledgement from them, and Mr Henley, Mr Say and Mr Latch or any of them are to present the same to the said Mr St John and the receivor of the Companie is to paie £45 which is the sum agreed upon for the same and this shall bee his warrant.
22/01/53	3	Ordered that a letter of thanks bee written and sent to Mr Doctor Stanes for his civillitye and favour shewen to the Companie upon all occasions viz - Sir, the Companie have byn fully certified that your good attention to them and to the workes of the Great Levell of the Fennes does upon all occasions manifest itselfe by your constant civillitye to them and you countenanceinge of the affayres which they cannot lett passe without an acknowledgement on their parte. And therefore they have comanded mee, in their names, to retorne you thanks and to desire the contynuance of your good afecion in order to the securitye and promotinge of workes so much conducinge to the Comon Wealths service, and that you would rest assured of their mutuall retorne of respecte upon all occasions which they shall be ever ready to testifie and expresse, which beinge all I have charge with I rest.
25/01/53	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr William Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Holworthy, M Holman
25/01/53	2	The perticuler in writinge touchinge highwayes sent up by Mr Moore in a letter lately received from him was read over and taken into consideration, whereupon it was thought fitt to make theis additions, and first as to the 4th way mentioned in the peticuler viz – (and so from Vermuydens Eau up to Ramsey towne) as shall bee found most convenient
25/01/53	3	As to the 7th was mentioned in the perticuler this addiion viz – and so up the way to the highway to Chartris. As to the 12th way mentioned in the perticuler, the addition viz – (a comon way from Friday bridge to March by Elme Leame devidinge Ladies Fen Creeke Fen and Elme

Comon).

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| 25/01/53 | 4 | The way leadinge from Peakirke to Guyhurne, 60 foote wide, being one of the 4 wayes mentioned in St Ives Law is omitted in Mr Moores perticuler |
| 25/01/53 | 5 | As to the 13th way mentioned in the perticuler, this addition viz – and so through Byrne Moore to meete with the highway that foes up to Elme Leame. |
| 25/01/53 | 6 | That there be a generall clause added on the adjudication that wheresoever any Adventurer hath any part out of any mans severalls or that there be any single peece taken out of any comon, that the Adventurers bee neyther charged to make a perticuler way thereunto nor the Country charged to loose so much land as the way will come unto for makinge the same, but that the Adventurers may have the same way of cominge unto their perticuler proportions as the owners and comoners had or might have had in case they had still enjoyed the same. |
| 25/01/53 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Gabriell Ellyott under Mr Hamond bee desired to take care in takinge up all the workes on the south side of Bedford River both to see the same done according to contractes, and to veryfie the Companie of any abuse or neglecte herein from tyme to tyme, and to this ende the contracts are to bee certified to him within a weeke after the entrie thereof, and hee is to assist Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour in the surveyinge of the whole levell and in the setting out of highways and drawe wages, and hee is to have an allowance after the rate of a hundred markes a yeare to begin at the tyme hee shall undertake this said employment. |
| 25/01/53 | 8 | [Page 41] Whereas a certificate of Mr Dymond and Captain Fisher about a bridge to Denver over Downham Eau was read over, whereupon the Companie doe conceive that their interpretation of the 5th Article in the petition does contradict itselfe and therefore the Companie resolves to appeale to the Comissioners named in the Acte of Parliament, eyther to determyn the price of the inheritance or the yearley rent that the Company shall paie for the same |
| 27/01/53 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trafford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Browne |
| 27/01/53 | 2 | Ordered, upon readinge Mr Hamonds letter touchinge the busines of Swafham, that arrows upon the case att law shall with all speede be convened against the parties offendinge and that they bee likewise proceeded against upon the statute of Northampton and endicted for the ryott, and Mr Henley is desired to advise with councell for the effectinge hereof and takinge any other course of law, and the sollicitor is to attend him, and Mr Jessop the receiver is to pay all such fees touching the same as are necessary from tyme to tyme and as Mr Henley shall thinke fitt. |
| 27/01/53 | 3 | Ordered as to the busines of 300 acres in Holme Fenne mentioned in Mr Hamonds letter, the Companie are willinge to condiseind to the request of the towne, first, payinge all the arrere as is due, they shall have the said 300 acres for another yeare under the former rent of £90 per annum so as for the yeare to come they take it by indenture, the counterpart whereof the Companie will speedily send downe. |
| 27/01/53 | 4 | Ordered that over and above the sum of £5000, formerly ordered, the expendor shall bee att liberty to draw £2000 more, includinge the money allready drawne above the said £5000. |
| 27/01/53 | 5 | Upon readinge Mr Hamonds letter of the 25th of January instant, it is declared that the Companie are not satisfied with the late way of impressinge of moneys, the same |

tendinge to confusion in the accounts and hazarding a losse to the Company, yet are content upon a certificate from the officer to whome the workes, upon a contracte is comitted in the proportion of worke done, an answerwable proportion of money may bee paid to the respective workemen, care beinge had that the money bee paid to the proper hand and that noe more bee paid then shall from tyme to tyme proportion the worke done, and accordingly Mr Hamond may issue warrant to the expendor untill Mr Latch his rettorne into the levell and the same course is to bee pursued by Mr Latch at his being in the levell.

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| 28/01/53 | 1 | Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Latch, Mr Henley Snr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Carill, Mr Holman |
| 28/01/53 | 2 | The Companie, takinge into consideration that part of Mr Hamonds letter touchinge the ryott comitted lately att Swafham, upon which they had some debate. |
| 28/01/53 | 3 | The Company likewise tooke onto consideration the tax of the Adventurers landes by the Country upon which it is ordered that a petition bee drawne in the name of the whole Companie to the Comittee of the Armie as followeth |

The humble petiion of the Earle of Bedford and his Participants, Adventurers in the Great Levell of the Fennes.

Sheweth that the proportion of 95000 acres of lande hath byn assigned to the said Adventurers out of the severalls, comons and comonable growndes in the severall counties of Northampton, Norfolke, Suffolke, Lincolne, Cambridge, Huntingdon and the Isle of Elie, in consideration of their vast charges and expences in dreyninge of the said Fennes, there being 300000 acres nowe equally improved [Page 42] remayning to the inhabitants of the said countyes, now for that the inhabitants of the severall parishes in the said countyes doe tax and rate your petitioners said landes as 10 tymes more then they doe their owne remayninge landes of the same quallitye and goodnes, and some of your petitioners are taxed for the same landes in severall parishes

Our petitioners therefore humbly pray that the same proportions may bee observed in taxinge both the Adventurers landes and the other dreyned landes remayninge to the Country and that the disproportionable rates aforesaid may bee redressed.

And the petitioners shall praie

Which petition was on behalfe of the Companie and Mr Carill presented to the Committee of the Armie.

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| 29/01/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Thurloe, Mr William Crane, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr Walker |
| 29/01/53 | 2 | Upon reading a petition delivered in this daie by Mr Heveringham on behalfe of the townes of Hockwold cum Wilton, it was prayed that their losses by cattell may be repayed, their waterings and navigation preserved and that there might bee no more grownd taken from them, then justice and equitye doe require whereupon, the said Mr Heveningham, on the behalfe of the said townes, affirmed that they were willinge to wave all other perticulers in their petiton so as they might have convenient wayes and generally for the passage of their cattle and navigation preserved, whereupon it is ordered that it bee referred to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Hamond who are desired upon the place to take the said petition into consideration and accommodate the petitioners or otherwise certifie the Company. |

- 29/01/53 3 Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Thurloe, Mr Latch, Mr Carill, Mr Say, Mr Trenchard, Mr Crane, Mr Walker or any two of them bee a committee named and they, or an two of them, bee desired to consider of high wayes and theire dimentions, together with drive wayes enlarginge of forelandes so as there may bee sufficient earth to repayre the banckes.
- 29/01/53 4 Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden take care forthwith to see that the dike called Coll Dike from the dreyne by the bancke side unto the new cutt be so sufficiently bottomed that it bee enabled to carry away and vent the water that comes downe that dreyne. And in case any flood in the meane tyme shall happen whilst this and workes is in doinge, that then Sir Cornelius Vermuyden or the Earle of Bedford or his agents shall have power to open the said dam for the preservation of the land that lyes above from drowninge.
- 29/01/53 p.m 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Mr Carill, Mr Say, Mr Thurloe
- 29/01/53 p.m 2 The comittee mett this afternoone and tooke into consideration the order touchinge highwayes, drove wayes and forelandes and made some additions to the perticulers sent up to Mr Moore the surveyour.
- 29/01/53 p.m 3 Memorandum that Mr Jessop is to pay Sir Cornelius Vermuyden upon account the sum of twentie poundes besides the twentye poundes paid unto him att the last goinge downe to the levell.
- 29/01/53 p.m 4 Memorand that Mr Moore the surveyour doe send up forthwith a perticuler estimate of the land at Denver against the next meeting of the Companie in the Temple Hall.
- 31/01/53 1 **[Page 43]** Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Carrill, Mr William Weston, Mr William Crane
- 31/01/53 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond as followeth
- The Companie, havinge taken you letter into consideration, comand mee to retorne answer as followeth, and first as touching the ryott att Swafham, they have given order that actions upon the case att law shall with all speed bee brought and comenced against the parties offendinge as you may perceive by the order enclosed. In the meane tyme, it was conceived that the best and most safest waie to procure a squadron of horse to quarter there abouts, which the Companie doubt not but you may easily obteyne by some application to bee made to the officer in cheife residinge att Elie as formerly you have done, and to Mr Doctor Staines to whome they have heretofor byn obliged for this former civillities and doe gratefully acknowledge the same by the letter herewith enclosed, which (after you have read over) they desire you to seale and present unto him. The Company doe wholly leave it unto you to requisite the soldyers with such satisfaction and gratuity as you shall thinke fitt, there conceivinge this to bee a principle meanes to supresse ryotts for the future, desiringe you would have respecte still to a dilligent enquiry after the names of the parties offendinge to the end they may bee in due tyme severely punished accordinge to theire offence. As to that part of your letter touchinge the three hundred acres in Holme Fenn, the Companie are willinge to condisent to your request and the towne, first payinge all the arreres due for the said 300 acres, they have to have the said land for another yeare under the former rent of £90 per acre so as, for the yeare to come, they take it by way of indenture as you may provide by the order enclosed
- 31/01/53 3 Touchinge the last part of your letter about impressinge money, I have also, here

enclosed, sent you an order or declaration of the Companie whereby you are authorized in the absence of Mr Latch to issue warrants to the expeditor accordingly

31/01/53 4 Upon the petition of Hockwold on Wilton, delivered on Satterdaie last to the Company by Mr Heveringham, the Companie thought fitt to referre the same to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and yourselfe to consider thereof and accommodate the petitioners or otherwise certifie the Companie, copies of which petition and order is also here enclosed sent you. As also severall orders touchinge discharge of some officers and the goinge on with the south levell, which they have cheifely recomended to the care of yourselfe and Mr Jonas Moore

31/01/53 4 Sir, the Companie understand that the Country have taxed the Adventurers lands in Byall Fenn, Westmore and Cranmore to the armeyes and navey much more then they take themselves for their owne fen landes of like or better quallity and goodnes and that, notwithstanding many had taxes, Mr Carill at £4 for his 600 acres in Westmore and Cranmore, which is 4 tymes so much as they tax their owne dams, they raitinge them onely at 10s a dam which, and with another, are 20 acres a peece, besides the Adventurers share taken out, which they rate after the rate of 16d in the pound which comes to 8d a dam, or one score, so as 30 dames or 30 score come to but 20s to this tax, whereas they rate Mr Carill for the like proportion of grownd they will not exchange with him for a 8 groates a score, which comes to £4 for his 600 acres which is 4 tymes as much as they rate themselves, and that the rest of the comons are not rated as halfe so much as many rate their dams. And that, notwithstandinge that Mr Carill hath paid the same tax of £4 by vertue of the Commisioners warrant and hath the collectors receite, the Commissioners have ordered him his mony againe which the Company conceive they have not power to dispose of by the Acte, it beinge now the states money, and have given warrant to tax him anew, and the new assesser have rated him att £13.10.00 which is at least 13 tymes and a halfe as much as they rate themselves for the remaynder of their owne grownds left unto them which is of equall or better goodnes, which the Companie thinke is so unreasonable and evident that they hope the Commissioners will not enforce them to seeke further remedy but will themselves doe right therein and tax their landes no more in proportion then they tax those out of which they are taken. If this may bee obteyned, they shall goe hand in hand with them. If not, they doubt not but to finde reliefe elsewhere. The Companie upon the persuasions of Mr Child have purposed to make application to the Commissioners in the Country once more and for that purpose doe desire you to treat with the Commissioners about the regulatinge the present taxes and settinge a course for the future, desiringe a fayre correspondence if it may bee.

31/01/53 5 **[Page 44]** A perticuler of high wayes, droves, wayes with which some alterations and additions beinge read over, it is ordered that the same bee entered as followeth and a copie thereof send to Mr Moore.

Directions for the surveyour to sett out highwaies and lanes throughout the whole levell both north and south of Bedford River.

- That the surveyour doe first set out all wayes and landes which are allready appointed to bee done, accordingly to bee lockspitted, and pitts made, and afterwarde to bee diked of as the Companie shall thinke fitt.
- That furthermore, the wayes and landes hereafter following shall be lockspitted over and above, which are appointed at the meetinge att Elie or formerly appointed, eyther diked of or lockspitted
- One highway from Southea bancke to the north bancke of Moretons Leam by the

Adventurers growndes in Sutton fen by Coll Dike of 30 foote wide

- A drove way of 60 foote wide headinge from Whittlesea to Upwood hardes and to bee through the Fennes of Whittlesey, Ramsey and Upwood.
- Another high waie of 40 foote wide from he sheddes where it crosses and meetes with the former at Bevills Leame unto Ramsey along by Delphes Dike through the Fennes of Whittlesey and Ramsey and the lotted high growndes of Ramsey called Michwood.
- One way leading from Warboys Wood to the former of 60 foote wide called Puttocks Drove through the Fennes of Weston Ramsey and Warboys and so to bee continued to Copholder Bancke on the one side of the Adventurers dikes of Dikamore, and where Dikamore is parted by a crosse lyne to leave on that way to Berwick towne.
- One way leadinge from Mepall to Chartris Hards, comonly called Iretons way through the Fennes of Mepall and Chartris and so up through the Comon to the high way of Chartris
- One way leadinge from March to Whittlesey of 40 foote wide by the bancke of Ransome Moore adjoyninge to Burrow Moore and so through West Fenne and Whittlese Fennes to the gravell nere the Cotes so to Whittlesey
- One way from Moretons Leame south banke along shawes dike to crosse the highway that leaves from Whittlesey to Doddington to bee contynued on so farre that all the lott land in West Fenne may have passage the way unto Vermuydens Eau way.
- One way leadinge from Upwell to Honey Hards and so through the Fennes of Upwell Doddington and Chartris.
- A way crossinge the former from Wimlington to Manea by the bancke called Stonea bancke and so by Qxwillow Lode to the bridge upon the Mere Dike nere Bedford Dreyne
- One way leading from the bridge upon Well Creeke upon London Lode bancke to Calcye Dike through the Fennes of Upwell.
- One way from Friday bridge along by Elme Leame through Elme Comon and Creeke Fenne unto March streame
- Another way upon the bancke from Eastwood end to Stonea and so upon the crosse bancke to Brynnemoore and so through Brynnmoore to meete with the high way that goes by Elme Leame to Friday bridge.
- One highway upon Waldersey bancke from the chayne to Hobbs howse and so along the crosse bancke to Guyhurne
- One other way upon Coldham bancke and so along from the chayne into Friday bridge
- A high way from Peakirke to Guyhurne to bee made alonge the dreyne that now goeth that way on the north side there

- A highway from Moretons Leame south bancke along Shawes Dike to crosse the highway that devides Whittlesey and Doddington, unto Whittlesey dike in that manner that all the lots in West Fenne may have passage that way
- The way that goeth from Whittlesey Fen unto Upward Hards
- **[Page 45]** The high waie from a little above the Stedds unto Neane so to joyne upon Vermuydens Eau with a bridge over Neane
- Copholder Bancke to be a comon highway for the Adventurers
- To make a highway in Somersham over the corner of the 4th lott into the second if there bee neede which is to be seene upon the place, the rest are to have passage by the highway allready made and by such as shall bee found needfull.
- A way betweene Whinney Fenne and Longwood Fenne and those landes there between the 8th, 2nd, 3rd and 12th lotts to a bridge to bee made over the 40 foote dreyne next or through Mr Russells land in Byall Fenne for Wickham men to come to their meadlandes as shall bee thought most convenient by the surveyour.
- The diserted north bancke of Bedford River from Welches Dam to Salters Lode to bee a highway.

31/01/53

6 On the southside Bedford River

- A drove of 40 foote wide from Southery towne to Hellswell leadinge through Southey and Feltwell Fens.
- Another way of 30 foote wide leadinge to Brandon River from the former betwixt the severalls of Sir Thomas Wood howse and Feltwell Mow Fenne and by the Adventurers gravells in Feltwell severalls.
- A highway of fortie foote wide, passinge from Owse to Littleport chaire and so along by the Adventurers dikes of Whelpmore and Burnt Fenne up by Sheppey Fenne, Beggard Lode and Mildenhall Fennes, up to the high growndes of Mildenhall and to the west and most convenient high way there.
- Two wayes meetinge with the former of 30 foote wide, one in Whelpmore betwixt the 6th lott and the Adventurers peeces in Whelpmore abuttinge upon Owse, another nere Unley crossinge Popse Lode to Lakenheathe severalls in such sort that every peece there may bee wayes out.
- An highway from the Middle Fenne along by the river to Prickwillow and from there alonge by the river of Owse to the ende of Mildenhall River and up by that river unto Isleham
- An highway from Littleport to Southery Fenne and so through Mr Skipwiths growndes to the great sasse att Salters Lode and dam upon Owse and so to Downham bridge alonge the old Owse 60 foote wide
- The bancke of Sir Edward Partheriches to bee contynued to Crouchmore for a high way
- A way leadinge from Welney to Littleport causeway in Westmore of 60 foote

wide

- A way from Bymore place to Downham in the Isle to answer the way from Manea upon Oxwillow Lode of 60 foote wide
- A highway from Wicken to Reach of 30 foote wide along by the Adventurers growndes
- That a convenient way bee sett out for the Adventurers proportions about Burwell and Reach
- A drove from Mepall to Welches dam of 60 foote wide by the south bancke of Bedford Dreyne which bancke is to bee reserved for plantinge of wood for preserving the north bank
- A highway to be made alonge by the dreyne that comes from Fordham Brooke to Prickwillow

31/01/53

7 For forelands, northside

- Between Croyland and Peakirke to sett out 60 foote for a foreland next to the bancke in the wash, the dike antiently made alonge the bancke and to bee accounted
- The foreland betweene Croyland and Brother howse to bee att the indike of Porland where there is none to be had att the outside
- From Guyhurne to Peterborough the northside
- To make a foreland of 60 foote in the wash side the old dike not accounted untill they come at the second clay grownd and there to leave it
- **[Page 46]** From Guyhurne to Elderwell and the high grownd also 60 foote foreland on the wash side
- From there to the hards of Whittlesay to take 60 foote foreland at the inside
- To make a foreland of 60 foote wide from the foote of the north bancke of the wash by Bedford Dreyne which foote on the banckes to bee contynued 3 foote over the dike that is to bee filled upon and that this bee contynued from Welshes dam to Salters Lode which dike is to bee 12 foote in the top, and so to contynue proportionably untill it bee 20 foote at the outfall of the Owse.
- From Mepall upwards to Erith, also a foreland of 60 foote to be lockspitted out as aforesaid below Mepall

31/01/53

8 On the south side

- To take from Mepall unto Salters Lode on the inside of the south bancke 60 foote foreland, the were dike not accounted exceptinge the hard lands nere Mepall.
- Upon the severall rivers of Grant, Mildenhall, old Owse, Brandon River and Stoake on each side of the said rivers next the bancke to sett out 60 foote foreland att the outside thereof and where there is noe place enough at the outside then to take it at the inside of the bankes beyond the were dike

31/01/53	9	<p>Action by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A way to joyne unto Yaxley drove way for the most convenience of their landes and the towne — A way to Fassett and alonge the devision dike of the Adventurers lands sett out in Fassett. — A way to strike upon to Whittlesey by one of the highwayes out in Whittlesey goinge to the comons of Fassett — A way to goe from the said landes to the highway that goeth to Upwood which may bee done by or alonge Underwoods Dreyne in other case as the surveyour shall see most convenient by Bevills Leame highway of otherwise
31/01/53	10	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore with severall orders to be sent enclosed, that is to say the order touchinge Denver, the order for him to take care of the workes from Downham Eau to Brandon and a copie of a perticuler of highwayes.
31/01/53	11	Mr Moore, the Companie comanded mee to signifie unto you that they have byn long in expectation to heare what you have done about Adventurers land that falles short in measure. The order sent downe to you was that in such cases you were to supply the same by takinge land out next adjoyninge. Not hearinge from you as to this perticuler, they desire an account by the next retorne. I delivered you papers I received from Mr Latch, who moved the Companie and thereupon they made an order, a copie whereof I have herewith sent you. Together with their desire which is that you fayle not to send up a perticular of the quantity of land att Denver, and of what yearley value the same is, against the 7th daie after the ende of the terme, the usuall daie of the meeting of the Comissioners in the Temple Hall, and that you would not faile also to attend the refferees viz - Mr Bendish and Mr Farrer, touchinge the busines of Sutton Meadlands and the other refference that they may view the landes whereby they may bee better enabled to make their certificate at their cominge up to towne. In perticuler, you yourselfe are desired forthwith to certifie what quantity of lande is generally taken out of comons and what out of severalls and whether the perticulers hold out with those proportions sett out by St Ives Law, yea or noe. The Company have committed to your care the worke betweene Downham Eau and Brandon, and Edmund Welsh is desired to pursue your order and direction herein, a duplicate of the Companie order is here inclosed, sent you. The remaynder of the south side Bedford River is committed to the care of Mr Hamond with directions to imploy George Barnes and Gabriell Ellyott under him. I have likewise sent you a copie of highwayes and drove ways agreed upon by the Companie.
31/01/53	12	<p>Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Farrer and Mr Bendish as followeth</p> <p>Sir the Companie of Adventurers in the Great Levell of the Fennes have appointed their surveyour Mr Jonas Moore to attend you in takinge in view of the landes in the severall orders of reference reffered to you and Mr Farrer to consider of, to the ende you may all the better enabled to make your certificate att cominge up, whereupon the Companie [Page 47] desire you would bee pleased to take this trouble upon you and to take so much paynes as to meete together and satisfie yourselves therein before your cominge up.</p>

03/02/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Latch, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Crane, Major Alex Blake, Sir John Potts, Mr Sam Smith, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Culpeper, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Neale, Mr Jessop, Mr Browne
03/02/53	2	Ordered that Major Alexander Blake bee desired to goe downe into the Great Levell of the Fennes and take into his care and oversight the severall workes on the northside of Bedford River, that is to say Cardike, Crowland Bancke and the other banckes and workes up Moretons Leame, Welland and Clowes Crosse, accordinge to such directions as hee shall hereafter receive from the Companie, and hee shall have allowance after the rate of £3 a weeke from the Companie.
03/02/53	3	Ordered that the Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Colonell Walton, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir John Potts, Mr Latch, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Crane, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Say, Mr Trenchard, Mr Thurloe, Colonell Sydney, Colonell Castell, Mr John Russell, or any six or more of them, bee desired to attend the Lord Chief Justice St John to the intent they may conferre together and consider of all thinges preparatory towards the obteyninge an adjuducation on the south side of Bedford River.
03/02/53	4	Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Crane are desired to attend my Lord St John to view what tyme his Lordshipp can dispenche with his occasions to appoint a tyme of meetinge for the purpose aforesaid
05/02/53	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Colonell Castell, Mr Carill, Mr Smith, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr William Crane, Mr William Weston, Mr Trenchard
05/02/53	2	Ordered that Mr Farrer be desired to meete the Companie this afternoone to conferre together touchinge the report about Sutton Meadlands
05/02/53	3	In the absence of Sir Edward Partherich and Mr William Crane, Colonell Robert Castell made report to the Company from my Lord Chief Justice St John upon the order made on Thursday last touchinge a meetinge about an Adjudication that his Lordshipp, havinge many urgent occasions, could not therefore appointe a sett tyme of meetinge at the present.
05/02/53	3	Ordered that Colonell Castell and Mr Latch bee desired to goe to Mr St John and desire him to meete the Companie in the afternoone in order towards his journey into the levell and oversight of the workes, which they did doe and made retorne that Mr St John was not in towne.
05/02/53	4	A letter from the Councill of State dated at Whitehall the 4th of February instant with a warrant there inclosed touchinge the sowinge of hemp upon the levell were read over to the Companie whereupon they resolved to consider thereof att a fuller meeting.
05/02/53	5	The Companie of Adventurers doe resolve to meete hereafter on the usuall daies of meetings in the afternoone that is to say on Mondays, Thursdaies and Satterdaies in the afternoone weekly
05/02/53 p.m	1	[Page 48] Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Carill, Sir John Potts, Mr William Crane
05/02/53 p.m	2	Mr Farrer did, accordinge to the order made in the forenoone, attend the Companie touchinge the busines of Sutton Meadlands

- 07/02/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trenchard, Mr Holworthy, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr William Weston, Mr Carill, Mr Jessop
- 07/02/53 2 The Companie took into consideration the great necessity of Mr St John's going into the levell. It is ordered that Mr Jessop be desired to draw up a letter to be sent to Mr St John as followeth

Sir - The Company have had very eminent assurances of your good affection to their affairs and most acknowledge the great advantage their works have received by your presence upon the levell, for the further advancement whereof your experience and continued favour is so much relied upon that they take the freedom earnestly to request your returne, that by your countenance and direction, your good beginnings may receive perfection which they are the more encouraged to propound and hope by an intimation given them of your willingness in that behalfe. Wee doe therefore in the Companies name seriously desire you to give them a meeting tomorrow about 3 of the clocke in the afternoone in order to the receivinge of your resolution and consideringe what will be fitt to be done for the empoweringe of you so as to make your favour most advantageous to the good of the works. If that be too soone in respect of your owne occasions, wee desire you to name a tyme when it may be most convenient for you, and endeavour shall be used to gett the Companie to meete accordingly. Wee shall onely add that expedition will be principally conducinge to the ends wee now againe attest, and request you accordingly to dispose of your thoughts and occasions in reference to whats now proposed whereby you further engage the Companie and amonge others

Your very affectionate friends to serve you,

Bedford
John Russell
John Potts
John Trenchard
John Carill
Robert Henely
Colonell Castell
William Crane
William Weston
Mr Holworthy

- 07/02/53 2 Upon the motion of Colonell Robert Castell, it is ordered that it be referred to Mr Jessop who is desired to take into consideration the remaynder of his account touching the removinge of tymeber for the service of the Company and hee is to audite the same and make his report to the Companie with all convenient speede
- 07/02/53 3 Upon readinge Mr Hamond Le Strange his petition, the Companie declared they could doe nothinge there untill they know what part of Londoners Fenne he claymed, beinge the land in question mentioned in his petition
- 08/02/53 1 **[Page 49]** Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Crane, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Culpeper
- 08/02/53 2 The Companie beinge informed that Mr St John is lately gone into the levell ordered that a letter should be sent unto him with a copie of the letter sent from the Companie to him therein inclosed as followeth.

Sir the Companie on Mondaie last did represent their desires unto you by a letter they then sent to Battersey, thereby earnestly desiringe you concurrence in takinge upon

you the trouble of another journey into the levell in hope it might have come to your handes but, upon returne of the messenger, it appeared you were that daie upon your journey theither. They have therefore here enclosed, sent you a copie of the said letter and with all doe renew their requestes that you would bee pleased to crowne and complete the workes you have so happily begun to which purpose they have confirmed their requests by an order here enclosed, whereby they have impowered you to acte and doe as when you were last upon the levell, wherein if you conceive anythinge short that is requisite for the good of the Companie, they desire you would speedily give them notice thereof to the intent they may enlarge the same. I have likewise sent you another order whereby you are desired, in the absence of Mr Latch, to take upon you the sole power of the comptroll.

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| 08/02/53 | 3 | In regard Mr Latch is lately fallen sicke and thereby disabled att present for managing the comptroll, it is ordered in the absence of Mr Latch that Mr St John bee desired to take upon him the same power concerninge the comptroll as formerly Mr Latch had to all intents and purposes. |
| 08/02/53 | 4 | Ordered that Mr St John bee desired to take upon him the care and oversight of the severall workes in the Great Levell of the Fennes designed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and to superintend the same to all intents and purposes as formerly hee was impowered to doe. |
| 10/02/53 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Alleyn, Mr W.Smith, Mr Sam.Smith, Mr Edward Cooke, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Bradley, Mr Walker, Mr B.Arthur, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Gorges, Mr G.Woodward, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trafford, Mr Draper, Mr Hampson, Mr Alepand Jones, Mr Lane, Mr Bridges, Mr Browne |
| 10/02/53 | 2 | Resolved

That every member of the Companie bee desired to bringe in the names of all such able surveyours as they can procure to serve the Companie att such rates and upon such termes as the Companie shall thinke fitt. |
| 10/02/53 | 3 | Resolved upon the question

That Mr Hamond and Mr Moore the surveyour bee desired to make all speed up to towne so as they may bee here on Thursdaie or Wednesday next to acquainte the Companie of such perticulers as they shall bee demanded in order to an adjudication on the south side of Bedford River |
| 10/02/53 | 4 | [Page 50] Upon readinge the breviat of the contracte made between Anthony Hamond Esqr on the behalfe of the Companie and others on the behalfe of the northside of Wisbich touchinge the layinge on sluces in Tyd St Giles Marsh, it is ordered that Mr Bridges bee desired to draw a letter to bee sent to Mr Gregory Gawsell with intymation to him to communicate the same to the rest of the persons who signed the said contract with him, which is as followeth -

It is now long since you should have performed your agreement made with the Earle of Bedford and his Participants touchinge the layinge of two sluces in Tyd St Giles marsh. Therein, you must neede acknowledge their great patience this long to have forborne, eyther to arrest or outlaw you for your breach of agreement, they havinge thereby suffered nere £2000 damage. The Companie still desire to deale fairly and friendly with you and therefore will forbear to proceede against you by waie of arrest or outlaw, and so as you will appoint your attorney to appeare and receive a declaration in the upper bench with an imparlance untill the next terme, hereby that |

the Companie and you will goe fayrely on to a tryall and thereby prevent you great trouble and charge

- 10/02/53 5 Ordered that Mr Edmund Farrer shall have an allowance of five poundes from the Companie paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie as a gratuity from them for his paines in procuringe severall persons to bee arrested on the northside of Wisbich, in regards hee hath also layd out 40s towards the same.
- 10/02/53 6 Sir John Potts, Colonell Castell and Mr Trafford were desired to attend my Lord Chief Justice St John to know what tyme his Lordshipp can dispenche with his occasions to appointe a tyme of meetinge to conferre with the committee formerly named in order to an adjudication.
- 10/02/53 7 Ordered that every Adventurer that findes himselfe agrieved by reason his land falls short in measure of the proportion hee ought to have, shall and may apply himselfe to the surveyour, who is to supply and make up the same by taking other land next adjoyning, accordinge to former order.
- 10/02/53 8 Ordered that Mr John Spaldinge shall have the sum of thirty shillings paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie for his paines in transcribinge of St Ives Law and this shall bee the receivers warrant.
- 10/02/53 9 Ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour bee desired at his cominge to towne to prepare severall mappes of the workes on the south side of Bedford River for satisfaction of the Commissioners in order for an adjudication
- 10/02/53 10 Sir John Potts, Colonell Castell and Mr Trafford made retorne from my Lord Chief Justice St John that his Lordshipp could not bee att leizure untill the ende of the terme to conferre with the committee formely named touchinge the adjudication.
- 10/02/53 11 A letter delivered by Colonell Castell from Mr Bendish, one of the refferrees touchinge Sutton Meadlands, was read over and delivered to Mr Edmund Farrer to shew his uncle, who is another refferree to the intent they may joyne in a certificate against the next meetinge of the Commissioners
- 12/02/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Mr Gilbert North, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Say, Mr William Crane, Mr William Smith, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford, Mr Browne
- 12/02/53 2 Upon readinge a letter from Mr Clamp, deputie to the expeditor, touchinge the charginge of more bills of exchange by £500 then there is here in cash in the treasurie, it is ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to write a letter to the expeditor, or his deputy, to the intent hee may charge noe more bills for any more money untill the first of March next. In the meane tyme hee is desired to send up a perticuler account of which mony is in cash in the Country and what is necessary more to bee drawne.
- 12/02/53 3 **[Page 51]** The Companie resumed the debate touchinge an answer to the letter received from the Councill of State about sowinge hempe upon the levell, whereupon is is ordered that Mr Say bee desired on the behalfe of the Companie to move the Councill of State to desire an explanation of their letter whether they meane £8 to the stone or £14 for to every stone of hempe
- 12/02/53 4 Ordered that Thursdaie next bee appointed a daie of sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in their taxes and the Companie agree to meete forenoone and afternoone

12/02/53	5	Ordered that Colonell Castell and Mr Crane bee desired againe to attend upon Lord Chief Justice St John to know what tyme his Lordshipp can dispenche with his occasion to appointe a tyme to conferre with the Companie about an adjudication.
12/02/53	6	Colonell Castell and Mr Crane returned from my Lord St John and signified from his Lordshipp that hee would meete the Companie on Thursdaie next for the purpose aforesaid
14/02/53	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Smith, Mr North, Mr Culpeper, Mr Munne, Mr Buffkin, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Carill, Mr Gorges, Sir John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Alleyn, Mr William Crane, Mr Sam Smith, Mr Lane
14/02/53	2	Upon the motion of Mr Pedley on the behalfe of the townes of Glatton and Holme in the County of Huntingdon, touchinge a highway to bee made for accomodation of the said townes, it is ordered that it bee referred to Mr Moore the surveyour who is upon the place to consider where it is most convenient for a highway or drove way to bee made for accomodation of the said townes, as also what the charge thereof will amounte unto which hee is to certifie the Company, whereupon such further order shall bee made therein as they shall thinke fitt.
14/02/53	3	Ordered that Mr Say, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Carill, Colonell Castell and Mr William Smith bee added to Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Mr Thurloe and Mr Latch, who were formerly named a committee touchinge the first adjudication and they, or any three of them, are desired to consider of all thinges preparatory towards the obteyninge adjudication on the south side Bedford River and are desired to meete on Wednesdaie next in the fornoone and make their report to the Companie or Thursdaie next if they thinke fitt. And Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Moore, if hee bee in towne, are then to attend this committee
17/02/53	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Trenchard, Mr Longe, Mr Hamond, Mr Holman, Mr Browne, Mr Hampson, Captain Blackwall, Mr William Smith, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr Walker, Mr Buffkin, Mr Hollworthy, Mr Spaldinge, Mr Sam Smith, Mr Thurloe, Mr Say, Mr Carill, Mr Bradley, Mr Draper, Colonell Walton, Cornelius Vermuyden, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr B Arthur, Mr Neale, Mr Henry Henne, Mr William Crane, Sir John Potts
17/02/53	2	[Page 52] Memorand. Sir Cornelius Vermuyden on the daie of the date hereof, in performance of the contracte made with the Companie as diirector of the workes, does hereby declare that the workes concerninge the whole remaynder of the Great Levell of the Fennes is adjudged are now finished, so as the same remaynder is fitt for adjudication within the true meaninge and intention of the Acte of Parliament.
17/02/53	3	A question was put whether or noe the Companie att present shall demand an adjudication. It was resolved in the affirmative.
17/02/53	4	The former question beinge put whether or noe the Companie shall att present demand an adjudication, it was resolved in the affirmative
17/02/53	5	Another question was put whether or noe the Companie shall demande judgement of the Commissioners att their meetinge on Satterday next it was resolved in the affirmative <i>nullo contraciente</i>

- 6 The Committee appointed to consider of all thinges preparatory to the obtenyninge an adjudication made their report to the Companie that the severall brookes and rills on the south side of Bedford River, hereafter followinge, are sufficient to carry away the waters to their proper outfall viz -
- Oakington Brooke falls into Willingham Mere and so into the old channell of Owse a little below the Hermitage by Willingham Gravel.
 - Cottenham Brooke falls by a perticuler dreyne into the old channell of Owse by Suttons Coate
 - Bottisham Brooke falls into Botesham Load and so unto the River of Grant below Clayhith by a sasse att the head, and if Grant bee to high att Clayhoth that falls into Reach Load and falls out below att Upwere
 - Swaffham Brookes comes downe by a load into the River of Grant against Waterbeach and a sasse at the head, and if the Grant bee high then it falls into Reach Load and falles into Upwere
 - Reach Brooke goes along in a navigable Loade to Upware with a sasse at the head and then emptieth itselfe into Grant.
 - Burwell Brooke falls into Reach Loade and so goes out att Upwere
 - Wicken hath noe brooke but the water that falls goes into Reach
 - Fordham Brooke goes part of it beinge a mill water into Soham Mere, the superfluitie goes by a cutt of 16 foote through Soham and Bottisham Comons and falls into Mildenhall River att Prickwillow and so into Owse, the water of the said Soham Mere goes by Barway Loade and falls into the River of Owze by tonnells a little above Elie over against Thetford.
 - Freckenham Brooke comes downe above Islesham and falls into Mildenhall River betweene the banckes
 - Eariswell Brooke on Bevers Loade is part of it to fall into Brandon River and the other part of it by Popes Load deviding the Comons of Lakenheath from the severalls and to fall into Depney Load into the highway att Shippey Corner and so into Owze att Littleport Chaire is necessary to preserve navigation in Eariswell Brooke. It may bee done by a sasse where the said brookes fall into Brandon River.
 - A load that comes from Lakenheath fieldes and falls into Brandon River through a tonnell about five miles below Brandon.
 - The brooke of Felthwell is received into Sams his cutt and so falls into Ouze nere the mouth of Stoake River
 - Methwold Brooke falls into Stoake River between banckes of its owne in his proper channell and the upper part of the said brooke hath about 200 acres of receptacle.
 - Grunty Fen and Downham West Fenne doe issue their waters att Littleport by a peculiar dreyne and a sasse at the end thereof

17/02/53 p.m 1 Mr Munne, Mr Lane, Mr Carill, Mr Sam Smith, Mr William Smith, Mr Hampson, Mr Marsham, Mr Bufkin, Mr Culpeper, Mr Bland, Colonell Castell, Mr Hamond, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henry Henne, Mr William Weston

17/02/53 p.m 2 **[Page 53]** Whereas John Latch Esquire hath made default in payinge in the two moyties of some 15d tax due the nynth and 14th of December for his share or proportion of 1801 acres and 1/2 in the first lott amountinge to the sum of £112.11.0, that is to say

Part of Thorney - 100.00.00
 Part of 500 acres in Stoney Fen and Blacke Fen Comon - 400.00.00
 Sutton Meadlands - 131.00.00
 Coveney Severalls - 073.00.00
 One severall of Woodwalton - 015.00.00
 Bezelinges Fenne in Doddington - 344.00.00
 Severalls of Well and Wellney - 040.00.00
 Severalls at Doddington - 032.02.00
 Creeke Fenne in Doddington A - next March - 200.00.00
 Grunty Fenne A - 100.00.00
 Stuntney Farme - 022.00.00
 Stuntney Comon - 032.00.00
 Stuntney small severalls - 100.00.00
 Snale Fenne and Sedge Fen A next Wellney - 200.00.00

Total 1801.02.00 acres

Now for as much as the above mentioned parcels of land, amounting to 1801 acres and 1/2 were this day exposed to sale and John Hopkinson, clarke of the Companie, now beinge present, offered 45s an acre for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie. by vertue and accordinge to the Acte of Parliament. hereby sell the said 1801 acres and 1/2 unto the said John Hopkinson and his heires to have and to hold the said 1801 acres and 1/2 unto him the said John Hopkinson, his heirs and assigned, provided that the said sum of £12.11.10 and every part thereof bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid in to the receivor of the Companie. And the remaynder or surplusage over and above the said tax beinge £4941.05.08 is, within the same tyme, to be restored to the owner accordinge to the Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said John Hopkinson is to incurr such penalties as is enjoyned by former orders of the Companie. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said somes, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 1801 acres 1/2 from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such severall and respective person or persons as hee shall nominate or appointe and to his and theire heirs

17/02/53 p.m 3 Whereas Mr Thomas Browne hathe made default payinge in two moyties of one 15d tax due the 9th and 14th of December last for his share or proportion of 125 acres in the 13th lott, amountinge to the sum of £03.18.01, now for as much as the said 125 acres were this daie exposed to sale and John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie now beinge present offered £205 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie. by vertue and accordinge to the Acte of Parliament, hereby sell the said

125 acres unto the said John Hopkinson and his heires to have and to hold the said 125 acres unto him, the said John Hopkinson, his heirs and assigned, provided that the said sum of £03.18.01 and every part thereof bee within a weeke next, after the date hereof, paid in to the receivor of the Companie. And the remaynder or surplusage over and above the said tax beinge £201.01.10 is within the same tyme to be restored to the right owner, otherwise this order of sale is to bee void and the said John Hopkinson is likewise to incurr such penalties as is enjoyned by former orders of the Companie. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said somes in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 125 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such severall and respective person or persons as hee shall nominate or appointe and to his and their heirs.

- 17/02/53 p.m 4 Whereas Charles Keepe hath made default payinge in two moyties of one 15d tax due the 9th and 14th of December last for his share or proportion of 175 acres in the 10th and 13th lotts, amountinge to the sum of £05.09.04, now forasmuch as the said 175 acres were this daie exposed to sale and John Hopkinson, clarke of the Companie, now beinge present offered £355 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the Acte of Parliament, hereby sell the said 175 acres unto the said John Hopkinson and his heires to have and to hold the said 175 acres unto him the said John Hopkinson, his heirs and assigned, provided that the said sum of £05.09.04 and every part thereof bee, within a weeke next after the date hereof, paid into the receivor of the Companie. And the remaynder or surplusage over and above the said tax beinge £349.10.07 is also, within the same tyme, to be restored to the right owner, otherwise this order of sale is to bee void and the said John Hopkinson is likewise to incurr such penalties as is enjoyned by former orders of the Companie. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said somes, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 175 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such severall and respective person or persons as hee shall nominate or appointe and to his and their heirs.
- 17/02/53 p.m 5 **[Page 54]** Whereas there is 4 acres, 1r, 8p of uplands on Ramsey called Foreland Hill, too parcells of low or fenny grownd adjoyning to the said upland pasture and lyinge in Ramsey aforesaid, conteyninge by estimation 9a, 2r, 17p, all which parcells are cut away in makinge of two dreynes headinge from the River Neane to Bedford River together with the banke, and also 4a, 1r, 13p of land for the backe of both sides the said dreyn, were agreed by the inhabitants of Ramsey to bee conveyed to William Earle of Bedford, Edward Russell, R.Henley and R.Castell in consideration of the sum of £135.08.02. It now ordered, upon sealing the conveyance for the said landes in manner aforesaid, and upon clearing their tithe to bee severall grownd, the said sum of £135.08.03 shall bee paid to the said inhabitants into the handes of Mr Andrews, their assigned by the receivor of the Companie. And it is recomended to the care of Colonell H.Cromwell to endeavour the procuringe of a highway to bee made from Vermuydens Eau to Ramsey.
- 17/02/53 p.m 6 Ordered that Mr Fountayne, Mr Adams, Mr Marsham, Mr Culpeper, Mr Carill, Mr William Smith, Mr Hamond, Mr Say, Mr Henley Snr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr William Weston and Mr Trafford are named a committee and they or any two of them are desired to attend the Commissioners in the Middle Temple Hall on Satterday next att two a clocke in the afternoone in order to the demandinge an adjudication on the south side of Bedford River not yet adjudged dreyned and this committee are desired to meete on Satterday next in the forenoone to take the same into their consideration.

17/02/53 p.m	7	Ordered that Mr Hamond and Mr Moore bee desired upon the place to take consideration the busines of Over in order to an accomodation betweene them and the Companie, if possible may bee, or otherwise to certifie the Companie.
19/02/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Hamond, Mr Say, Mr Henry Henne, Sir John Potts, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Crane, Sir Cornelius Vermuydem, Mr Bradely, Mr Browne, Mr William Smith, Mr Sam Smith Mr Holman
19/02/53	2	Resolved upon the question That the Comissioners bee desired to goe downe into the levell and give their judgement of the land on the south side of Bedford River
19/02/53	3	Resolved also upon the question That the Comissioners bee desired to take their journey the 21st March next and appointe a meeting and session to be held at Elie the 24th March next.
19/02/53 p.m	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Hamond, Mr William Weston, Sir John Potts, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Vermuyden
19/02/53 p.m	2	Ordered that the members above named or any two of them bee desired to take into consideration all thinges for accomodation of the Comissioners in their journey into the levell and likewise all other matters concerninge the adjudication, and they are desired to meete on Monday next att nyne a clocke the forenoone
19/02/53 p.m	2	Ordered that letters bee written to one of the Comissioners for the monthly assessments in the severall countys of Huntingdon, Northampton, Suffolke, Norffolke and the Isle of Elie to bee by him comunicated to the rest of his fellow Comissioners as followeth: Sir - By the comand of the committee of the Army wee have sent this enclosed to the Committee of the County of [] and Sir wee have made choice of yourselfe and desire that you will please to give us the favour to lett it bee recomended to them by your hand from whome this messenger shall attend their answer which wee hope will bee so satisfactory that it may prevent both yourselves and us the trouble of further complaintt. It is desired you will please to appointe a tyme when the messenger may attend to receive your answer or that your answer may bee sent to Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre and hee will take care to convey it to the Committee of the Army.
19/02/53 p.m	3	Ordered that there bee 100 printed papers made ready to be reade in all churches through the whole south levell givinge notice of the tyme and place of meetinge of the Comissioners in order to an adjudication and the receiver is to paye unto the printer five shillinges and fower pence for his paines in printinge the same.
21/02/53	1	Mr Henley Snr, Sir William Soth, Captain Blackwall, Sir John Potts, Mr Hamond, Mr Carill, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Holman, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Samuell, Mr Culpeper
21/02/53	2	[Page 55] Ordered upon the motion of Mr Hamond that the receiver of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Mr Benjamyn Kendall the sum of sixteene poundes, seaventeene shillinges and six pence upon the accoumpt of mony due to George

Jackson carpenter for the bridge sett at the Hermitage nere Erith and his receipt shall be to the receivor a sufficient warrant.

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| 21/02/53 | 3 | Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond and Mr Moore bee desired forthwith to goe downe into the Great Levell of the Fennes and take care that the workes from Downham Eau bee finished to Stowbridge. And that they acte and doe all other thinges requisite and necessary to be done against the meeting of the Comissioners in order towards an adjudication. |
| 21/02/53 | 4 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Mr Fountayne, Mr William Smith, Mr Carill, Mr Adams, Mr Marsham, or any two of them, are desired forthwith to prepare drafts of the judgement that is to bee had att Elie and to advise with councell therein and so to order the same as it may bee engrossed and made ready to bee sealed against the meetinge of the Comissioners att Elie against the 14th March next. A paper draft whereof is to bee brought into the Companie by this day sennight. And this committee are desired to meete <i>de die en diem</i> at 9 a clocke in the forenoone and 3 a clocke in the afternoone untill the same bee fully finished. And this committee are hereby impowered to call to their assistance what councell they please and as many of the Companie as thinke fitt are desired to bee present. |
| 21/02/53 | 5 | Mr William Smith and Mr Oxenbridge are desired to attend my Lord Chief Justice St John to know if his Lorshipp will bee pleased to countenance the judgement by his presence at Elie 24th of March next and make retorne to the Companie by three a clocke in the afternoone |
| 21/02/53 | 6 | Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond and Mr Moore, the surveyour, bee desired to prepare by way of schedule a note of all the complaints whatsoever concerninge the dreyninge of the levell, eyther for cuttinge through land and those that want satisfaction for the same, or for bridges or any, other thinges that they shall finde to bee an objection against the proceedings of the Company and endeavor by all meanes to give the Country satisfaction therein. And to that purpose they are desired, by way of breviate, to describe their reasons in the margins of the said note or schedule, eyther for or against the said objections. |
| 21/02/53 p.m | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir John Potts, Mr St John, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bridges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Stanton, Mr William Weston, Mr Carill, Mr Holman, Mr Alex Jones, Mr G.North, Mr Crane, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Hamond, Mr W.Smith, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Bradley, Mr Browne, Mr Bland |
| 21/02/53 p.m | 2 | Ordered that it bee referred to the consideration of the committee named in the forenoone who are hereby desired to consider of some provision to bee made for high wayes and passages before the next adjudication. |
| 21/02/53 p.m | 3 | Ordered the Mr Hamond and Mr Moore the surveyour bee desired forthwith to make a devision of the 1000 acres in Westmoore south of Bedford River and apportion 50 acres to every perticuler lott to the intent every Adventurer concerned therein may take notice where his land lyes |
| 21/02/53 p.m | 4 | Mr St John, beinge desired to meete the Companie, did accordingly appeare todaie and promised to take his journey into the levell the first daie of March next |
| 23/02/53 | 1 | [Page 56] Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Trenchard, Mr Culpeper, Mr Browne, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Hamond, Mr Carill, Mr Gorges, Sir John Potts, Mr Marsham, Mr Holman |

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| 23/02/53 | 2 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr John Turner of Eybury to send up the bond hee tooke of the towne of Holme to the Companie forthwith |
| 23/02/53 | 3 | Ordered that a letter bee drawne by Mr Jessop to bee sent to the Lord Whitelocke to invite his Lordship to favour the Companie by beinge present at the meetinge of the Comissioners att Elie the 24th of March next, and they will take care to provide all necessary and convenient accomodations for his Lordshipp and his attendants which is as followeth |

My Lord - It hath pleased the Comissioners appointed by Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes (upon a representation made by the Adventurers touchinge the state of their workes and their prayinge of a judgement for the remaynder of the levell not allready dreyned) to adjourne their meetinge at Elie on Thursdaie the 24th of March next cominge in order to the enforminge of themselves by view, examination of witnesses or otherwise how the workes are advanced on the south side and thereupon to doe further accordinge to the powers given by the said Acte. Your Lordshipp was pleased at the passing of the last judgement to affoord your presence and to take much paines for the just satisfaction both of the Country and Adventurers, whereof both have received the fruite, and for that doe owe a very great acknowledgement. And because wee hope the issue of this meetinge will be the obteyninge of an adjudication for the south side of the levell (as by the justice of your Lordshipp and the other Comissioners allready granted for the north side), wee doe offer to your Lordshipp our earnest suite that your health and occasions will permitte your Lordshipp to favour the Companie and the publique service therein concerned with your companie and presence at that meetinge. For your Lordshipp and attendents, wee shall provide and dispose of charges and other conveniences in such sort as you shall directe and some of the Company will also bee ready to wayte upon your Lordshipp to the place. By you Lordships concession of this, our request, you will very much oblige as all persons concerned in the levell so in a perticuler manner.

Your Lordships affectionate and humble servants

Robert Henley Snr
John Potts
John Marsham
Bedford
Richard Gorges
W.Say
Anthony Hamond
John Carill

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| 23/02/53 | 4 | <p>A perticuler of workes on the north side of Bedford River received in writinge by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden was read over to the Companie and ordered and resolved to bee done as followeth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The bancke of Waldersea, as alleady it is directed to bee, furthered with all expedition. — The banckes on the north side of the middle levell from Welshes Dam to Salters Lode to be repayred so that it bee 50 foote in the seate and from Welshes dam upwards as neede required, and where it is settled to amende it sufficiently |
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- The dreyne from Welshes Dam downwards to Salters Loade to bee made deeper 40 foote wide, and to doe it so that it bee deeper then Vermuydens Eau and 5 foote wider then before which is to bee taken from the highway alonge the dreyne on the land side, and towards the bancke side there will remayne about 30 foote as the dreyne now is, which is not to bee toucht to the end the bancke may stand the better defensive. The earth is to bee layd against the backe on the inside to make the bancke thereby broad, on the whole 50 foote in the seate and where it is settled to heighten it also.
- That Vermudens Eau both bee deepened as allready comanded and warranted and appointed by the director and them of the comptroll.
- And that Whittlesey Dike, from where Bevills Leame meetes it, bee deepended accordinge to the depth, as Bevills Leame downwards is to be made to the River Neane.
- That the dreynes through Marshland bee made the next sumer, the depth as they were directed and that Elme Leame bee finished accordinge to the agreement.

23/02/53	5	[Page 57] Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Gorges, Mr Carill, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr Hamond, Mr Marsham, Mr Jessop, Mr Moore, or any three of them, are desired to meete in the afternoone and consider of an estimate of all the workes to bee done, as also the expence and charge of the same, together with your charges and expences, are to bee defrayed for the Comissioners meetinge and all other matters incident thereunto, and the said committee are likewise hereby desired to consider of highwayes and drovewayes and make their report to the Companie forthwith
23/02/53	6	Ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to procure the Laws of Romney Marsh to the intent that 200 copies of the same may bee forthwith printed.
23/02/53	7	Ordered that the Earle of Bedford, the Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Fountayne, Mr Thurloe, Mr Adams, Mr Hamond, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Marsham and Mr Carill are hereby named a committee and they or any three of them are desired to advice with councell and take into their consideration what is fitt to bee offered to the Companie for the orderinge, growinge and regulinge of the workes after the next adjudication, and are to consider of all thinges conducing there unto
23/02/53 p.m	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Mr Carill, Mr Say, Mr Hamond, Mr Trafford, Sir John Potts, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr W.Weston
23/02/53 p.m	2	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to lett him know the request of the Companie is that hee would bee pleased to call upon Mr Richard Kendall of Crowland for the £100 that is in his handes, as also to call upon Mr Turner of Eybury for the £90 rent for the 300 acres on Holme Fen and to send up the securitye hee tooke from the said towne
24/02/53	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Hamond, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Hampson, Mr Holman, Mr Say, Mr William Smith
24/02/53	2	Resolved upon the question That a tax of 15d an acre bee layd and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres in the Acte of Parliament mentioned

24/02/53	3	Resolved also upon the question That a moytie or 7d 0 thereof bee paid the first of June next and the tyme of forfeiture the 15th of the same month.
24/02/53	4	The other moytie of 7d 0 thereof the first of July next and the tyme of forfeitute the 15th of the same month
24/02/53	5	Whereas the Companie, takinge into consideration the necessity of layinge another tax of 15d an acre, doe hereby thinke fitt and order that a tax of 15d an acre bee sett and imposed upon the whole of the 95000 acres in the Acte of Parliament mentioned, as well upon the 80000 acres comprised in the twenty lotts or shares conteyninge 4000 acres, as upon the 2000 acres parcell of the 95000 acres mentioned in the said Acte of Parliament lately assigned to Benjamyn Weston Esqr, his heires and assigned, and the said tax is hereby sett and imposed accordingly and ordered to bee paid to the officers of the treasury by the handes of the receivor of the Company for the tyme beinge at Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex at two payments in manner as followinge viz - 7d 0 or one moytie thereof on or before the first day of June next ensuinge and 7d 0 or the other moytie thereof on or before the first day in July next ensuinge untill the said tax of 15d an acre and every part thereof bee fully satisfyed and paid, and in default of payment of the 7d 0, or the first moytie thereof, payable as aforesaid the landes of such defaulters are hereby ordered to be sold att of upon the 15th day of June next and in default of payment of the other moytie of 7d 0 an acre, as payable as aforesaid, the lands of such defaulters are hereby ordered to bee sold at or upon the 15th day of July next or att any other subsequent meeting of five or more of the Companie of Adventurers and Participants at the place aforesaid.
25/02/53	1	[Page 58] Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Wishland, Mr Browne
25/02/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop the receivor bee desired to paie unto the sollicitor of the Companie the sum of fortie shillinges to reteyne counsell for the drawinge of a bill on chancery for recovery of severall debts due to the Companie from the inhabitants on the north side of Wisbich, and this shall bee his warrant.
25/02/53	3	Upon readinge a letter from Tristram Dymond Esquire givinge notice to the Companie of the severall workes comitted to his care, it is ordered that a letter of thanks bee by the clarke written unto him in the name of the Companie desiringe hee would contynue a weekly correspondence with the Companie untill the workes under his care are substantially completed.
25/02/53 p.m	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Smith, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Jnr
25/02/53 p.m	2	Ordered that the sollicitor attend Mr Jeffery Palmer, Mr Latch and Mr Arthur to desire they would bee pleased to meete the Companie tomorrow about ten a clocke to conferre together about drawinge up of the adjudication.
26/02/53	1	Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr R Henley Jnr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Samuell, Mr Marsham, Sir John Potts, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Say, Mr Holman, Mr Trafford, Mr William Smith, Mr Bradley
26/02/53	2	Mr Jeffery Palmer, Mr Latch and Mr Arthur did accordinge to the request of the

Companie by their solicitor yesterday attend the Companie this daie to advise and conferre touching the next adjudication.

- 26/02/53 3 Ordered that Mr Jessop the receiver of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Mr Jeffery Palmer, Mr Arthur and Mr Latch, beinge of counsell with the Companie, the sum of fortie shillings a peece for their advise drawinge up the judgement.
- 26/02/53 p.m 2 Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Culpeper, Mr William Smith, Mr Carrill, Mr Say, Mr Alleyn, Mr Bardley, Mr William Weston, Mr Robert Henley Snr, Mr Henne, Mr Trafford
- 26/02/53 p.m 3 In case the sum of £130 will satisfie the towne of Denver and appease and settle all differences whatsoever betweene them and the Companie for the tyme to come (as Mr Fountayne hath byn enformed it will), it is ordered that a letter bee sent to Mr Moore to conclude an agreement with the said towne and the comptroller, or in his absence, the expeditor is accordingly to paie the said £130, and this order shall bee a sufficient warrant to the expeditor
- 26/02/53 p.m 4 Ordered that Mr Henley bee desired to write for the lawes and statutes of Romney Marsh to his sonne Barnham.
- 01/03/53 1 **[Page 59]** Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Walker, Mr Bradley, Mr Marsham, Mr Say, Mr Carill, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr St John, Mr W.Smith, Mr Trafford
- 01/03/53 2 Whereas Doctor Staynes enformed the Company that the owners of Farmers Fenne in Upwell had allways a way from Upwell to that fenne through that part of Upwell Comon which is now enjoyned as part of the 95000 acres of Adventurers lande, it is thereupon ordered that Mr Moore doe take the same into consideration and view the place and forthwith certifie the Companie what hee conceives fitt to bee done in the premisses, whereupon the Companie will give present order for reliefe as shall bee just.
- 01/03/53 3 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore the surveyour to this effecte that the Companie, enformed that some parcells of Adventurer landes are not yet lockspitted out on the southside of Bedford River by which meanes the Companie may recieve much prejudice in tyme to come, hee is thereof to take espetiall care that all Adventurere land may bee lockspitted out with all convenient speede before the meetinge or session of the Comissioners att Elie and that good testimony bee preserved of all such landes so lockspitted.
- 01/03/53 p.m 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr St John, Mr Carill, Mr Marsham, Mr Say, Mr W.Smith, Mr Gorges, Mr W.Weston
- 01/03/53 p.m 2 Upon the motion of Mr Say on the behalfe of William Palmer, it is ordered that hee shall bee contynued as a undersurveyour in the imployment of the Companie and hee is to observe such directions as from tyme to tyme hee shall hereafter receive in that behalfe
- 01/03/53 p.m 3 Ordered that Mr Walker shall have allowed and paid unto him by Mr Jessop the receiver of the Company the sum of three poundes for his charges and expences in his journey into Bedfordshire with a letter from the Companie to the Lord Comissioner Whitlocke to desire his Lorshipp to meete the rest of the Comissioners at Elie the 24th March instant.

01/03/53 p.m	4	Whereas Mr Dunne is appointed to provide necessaryes for accomodation of the Comissioners att theire meetinge at Elie, it is ordered that Mr Jessop, receivor of the Companie, is desired to paie unto him the sum of twentie poundes towards the defrayinge such thinges necessary in the behelf.
01/03/53 p.m	5	Ordered that all the Adventurers and Participants in the Great Levell of the Fennes bee desired to observe this followinge rule in letting of theire landes for the future, that is to say when any man letts his land that hee take espetiall care to oblige the tennant to paie the moytie of all taxes sett after Michalmas 1653 for repaires of all the workes in the said Great Levell not exceedinge one shillinge in every acre for one whole yeare. And it is ordered to bee published to the intent all Adventurers may take notice accordingly
01/03/53 p.m	6	Whereas John Trenchard Esquire hath made default in payinge in the first payment of a tax of halfe a crowne an acre due the five and twentieth daye of February last past for his share or proportion of 15 acres part of 115 acres mentioned in the lott booke by the name of Ladies Fenne and next unto Creeke Fenne, beinge parcell of the seveanth lott, amounting after the rate of 7d 0 an acre to the sum of 9s 1d, now forasmuch as the said 15 acres were this daie exposed to sale and John Carill Esquire, beinge now present, offered £37.10.00 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 15 acres unto the said John Carill and his heires [Page 60] to have and to hold the said 15 acres unto him the said John Carill his heires and assigned, provided that the said some of £37.10.00 and every part thereof bee within a weeke next, after the date hereof, paid in to the receivor of the Companie, the surplusage beinge to bee restored accordinge to the Acte, and is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Carill shall have an assurance of the said 15 acres from the Company made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate and theire heires
01/03/53 p.m	7	Ordered that Mr Jessop receivor of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Mr Jeffery Palmer and Mr Latch (besides what hath byn formerly paid) the sum of six poundes for contributinge theire assistance and advice in drawinge up the Acte of Adjudication
05/03/53	1	Earl of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Mr Marsham, Mr Say, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Hampson, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Fountayne, Mr D.Fryer, Mr Bradley
05/03/53	2	Whereas it is informed that Tritton bridge upon the Sheire dreyne is much out of repayre and it is desired that the Companie would contribute towards the same, in regard they have enlarged the Sheyre dreyne, it is ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to entrust some able and fitt persons to view the same and heare what proportions shall bee offered from the intabitants of Holland therein, and enforme themselves of the truth of the case and certifie the same with theire opinions therein, whereupon the Company will make such order theirin as shall bee just
05/03/53	3	Ordered that Mr Jeffery Palmer shall have fortie shillinges put him by the receivor of the Companie for his further advice in drawinge up the Acte of Adjudication
07/03/53	1	Mr John Russell, Sir G.Gerard, Mr William Weston, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr Stanton, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Mr D.Fryer, Mr Cooke, Sir John Potts, Mr Bradley

07/03/53	2	A letter received from the Councill of State directed to the Companie was read over, whereby they signifie theyre willingness to dispose of certaine Dutch prisoners, taken in the late engagement between the fleetes, for the use and service of the Companie, whereupon Mr William Weston, Mr Sampson, Colonell Jones, Doctor Fryer and Mr Staunton were desired to attend the Lord Chiefe Justice St John to know his Lords opinion what is fitt for the Company to doe upon the said letter, whereupon they made returne that my Lord Chiefe Justice would readily comply with the Companie what they should doe therein, whereupon the Companie agreed to meete again on Thursday next to take the said letter into consideration.
07/03/53	3	Mr Henley, Colonell Jones, Mr Hampson, Mr Walker and Mr Stanton or any three of them are desired to examyn the perticular of the Acte of Adjudication and to meete tomorrow by eight of the clocke
10/03/53	1	[Page 61] Earle of Bedord, Mr Henley Snr, Captain Blackwall, Mr Benjamyn Arthur, Mr Trafford, Colonell William Smith Mr Trenchard, Mr Adams, Mr H.Henne, Mr Walker, Mr Browne, Mr Say
10/03/53	2	A petition on behalfe of severall Dutchmen concerned in the 1st lott (as was alledged) was read over
10/03/53	3	<p>A letter for Major Alexander Blake was read over, whereupon it is ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth</p> <p>Sir - Your letters were communicated to the Companie but on regard of their weighty affayres they could not dispence with tyme and opportunity to retorne answer, they beinge wholly taken up to prepare for an adjudication and to meete the Lords and other Comissioners at Elie 24th March instant and sett forward hence the 21 names to retorne you thanks for your great care of your affayres desiring you would still contynue the same and put in execution what you shall conceive necessary to bee done in pursuance of the order and the good of the Companie, eyther for the substantiall repayres of the bancke of Moretons Leame, as all other bankes and workes on the north side of Bedford River to the intent those bankes may bee kept and preserved, they comittinge the same wholly to your care and oversight not doubting but that you will contribute the best of your endeavour and advice therein</p>
10/03/53	4	Mr Walker and Mr B.Arthur are desired to attend the Comissioners to know who will goe downe and meete at the Session att Elie
10/03/53	5	Ordered that all the ministers and officers of the Companie in towne doe give their personall appearance and attendance upon the Companie, morninge and eveninge untill they adjourne into the levell
10/03/53	6	Ordered that Mr Walker bee desired perticularly to take care for accomodation of the Lord Comissioners both with lodgings and other necessaryes
10/03/53	7	Ordered that Mr Bradley, one of the members of the Companie, is desired to bee steward for the Companie, and Mr Jessop is to defray the charges upon that account of the Companie for and touching he adjudication
10/03/53	8	The Companie resumed the debate touching the Dutch prisoners and the entertaynment of 400 to their service.
10/03/53	9	Resolved upon the question

That all the dikes that are to bee made to devide the Adventurers landes from the Country shall bee 14 foote wide and 5 foote deepe and all the earth is to bee cast upon the Adventurers side

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| 10/03/53 | 10 | Resolved | That all lott devidions shall bee 12 foote broad and 5 foot deepe to devide lott from lott |
| 10/03/53 | 11 | Resolved | That every Adventurer shall bee att liberty to imploy workemen for making the devision dikes to sewer his or theire lands from the Country and likewise to have the same libertye to devide one lott from another |
| 10/03/53 | 12 | Resolved | That every Adventurer shall have an allowance after the rate of a penny a foote for the dimensions aforenamed to bee paid by the expendor in the Country |
| 10/03/53 | 13 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond empowering him to make payes in the absence of the comptroller and Mr St John | <p>[Page 62] Sir - The Company perceive by a letter from the expendor that paies have byn dissapointed of late through the not signing of warrants to him for payment, wherein they did conceive provision had byn made by their order of the 27th of January last but least there should bee any prejudice by further fayles of that nature, they desire that untill the retorne of Mr Latch or Mr St John into the levell you will signe all warrants for necessary payments in such sort as Mr Latch formerly did, avoydinge the delivery of mony by imprest, that hazarding a confusion in the accoumpts</p> |
| 10/03/53 p.m | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Mr Adams, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Colonell William Smith, Mr William Weston, Mr Bradley, Mr Holman, Mr Jessop | |
| 10/03/53 p.m | 2 | Ordered that all such Adventurers as give in their names between this and Mondaie next shall have accomodation with horses or coaches att the Companies charge as they shall thinke fitt, and Mr Henley is to have an allowance from the Company for his charges of a horse litter in going down with the court. | |
| 10/03/53 p.m | 3 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to goe downe with the Lords Comissioners the 21st March instant, and hee is to carry downe with him £200 and to take up at Cambridge £400 more, and in case there will necessarily bee required a further sum, the expendor is to provide the same. And Mr Jessop is to issue out all such other sum and sums of mony as are needfull to bee expended and layd here in towne besides the said journey. | |
| 10/03/53 p.m | 3 | Ordered that Mr Bradley, one of the members of the Company, bee desired to husband the affayres of the Company in their journey to and from the levell to their best advantage and to overlooke the severall bills upon the way which are to bee brought unto him by Austin Spencer. And hee is to underwrite every such bill that such and such monyes are to bee paid, whereupon it shall bee a sufficient warrant to the receivor to paie and discharge the same. | |

10/03/53 p.m	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore, the surveyour, to desire him to provide 14 of the best lodgings for the Lords and other Comissioners and likewise for their attendants, and also 16 good lodgings for the Adventurers together with necessary accomodation for their servants and such other lodgings as Mr Moore shall conceive necessary. It is desired (if possible may bee) that Mr Poveyes howse may bee a reception for the Lord Comissioners
11/03/53	1	Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Adams, Mr Walker, Sir John Potts
11/03/53	2	Ordered that 100 warrants for sumoning wittnesses signed by the Comissioners att their last meetinge bee forthwith printed at the charge of the Companie. Mr Jessop is to pay him 5s for the printing and eight pence for the paper.
11/03/53 p.m	1	Mr Fountayne, Mr Adams, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Bradley, Sir John Potts, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Staunton, Mr Browne
11/03/53 p.m	2	[Page 63] Memorand that Mr Moore the surveyour bee sure to have ready mappes for the Lord Comissioners att the meeting att Elie
11/03/53 p.m	3	Ordered that Mr Hamond, in the absence of Mr Latch and Mr Walter St John, doe exercise the office of comptroll and signe warrants for payinge the workemen that are in arrere that there may bee noe just cause of complaintt by any workemen for not payinge their due wages, and such warrants so signed shall bee sufficient discharge to the expendor for the issuinge mony accordingly, a scope of this order to be sent to Mr Hamond and another to Mr Expenditor.
11/03/53 p.m	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore the surveyour as followeth Mr Moore - your letter hath byn read over to the Companie whereby they perceive that you understand that their landes may bee lockspitted and sett out after judgement, to which they thinke it not necessary pointe of tyme to retorne their reasons at large against the doing thereof. This they earnestly desire that you would not at present thinke of any other way then formerly they have prescribed that is that forthwith you use your utmost endeavor for the lockspitting out all Adventurer landes, at least wise markinge out the same instead of lockspittinge, and this is to bee punctually observed and done before the next judgement. It is recomended unto you care and perticularly given mee in charge to signifie this much unto you.
12/03/53	1	Sir John Potts, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Thurloe, Mr Adams, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bridges, Caprain R.Blackwall, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Say, Mr Walker, Mr D.Fryer, Mr Browne
12/03/53	2	Ordered that a letter be written to Colonell Robert Castell to desire him the meete the Companie att the session of Elie 24th of March.
12/03/53	3	Ordered that a letter be written to Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood to meete the Companie, also at the tyme and place aforesaid, and hee is desired to provide horses for the Lords to view the south levell, as hee did att the former session of the Comissioners
12/03/53	4	Ordered that Mr Lishe, Mr Hoskins and Mr Anthoney of the dutchie bee reteyned of councill for the Companie against the meeting at Elie.
12/03/53	5	Memorand that Mr Hamond bee desired to provide 2 or three boates att Erith for the reception of the Comissioners (if they to please) on Wednesday the 23rd of March instant.

12/03/53	6	Mr Haesdoncke on the petition of certaine Dutch men, did on their behalfe move the Companie to give way that hee might have copies of all orders deedes and writings touching the first lott, whereupon the Companie returned answer that they expected a breife of his or their tithe to the said lott in writinge received unto them, and thereupon they would consider thereof and returne answer accordingly.
12/03/53	7	Ordered that Thursdaie next in the forenoone bee appointed a tyme for sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in their taxes.
12/03/53	8	Ordered that the clarke carry downe to Elie their particuler mappes, deedes evidences and writings, hereafter followinge, and such others as the Companie shall thinke fitt <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The entire Acte of Parliament 2 Originall Lyn Law 3 Originall St Ives Law 4 Mr Haywards Survey 5 3 Mappes 6 Booke of orders of the Comissioners 7 All the bookes of orders of the Company 8 Depositions of witnesses enrolled in Country. The sollicitors to examyn and procure the same 9 The judgement of two parts engrossed together 10 Act of assessments 11 Originall lott book with copie 12 The tax rolls
15/03/53	1	[Page 64] Mr Marsham, Sir John Potts, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Bradley, Mr Doctor Fryer, Mr Trafford, Mr William Weston
15/03/53	2	The persons of the Companie here under named are desired to wayte upon the Lords and other Comissioners whose names are also entered on a paper on this day delivered to Mr Holman <p>Colonell Walton Mr Henley Snr Sir Edward Partherich Sir John Potts and his son Mr William Smith Mr Henry Henne Mr Fountayne Mr Adams Mr W St John Mr Latch Mr Trafford Mr Holman Mr Bradley Mr Jessop Mr Walker Mr B.Arthur Mr Browne</p>
15/03/53	3	Ordered that as many other members of the Company as please to meete the

Comissioners at Elie 24th March instant shall during the session there have horsemeale and mansmeale at the charge of the Companie

- 15/03/53 4 Ordered that there bee forthwith provided a sumpter horse and trunks with appertenances thereunto belonginge for the carriage of all deedes, evidences and writings of the Companie as they shall conceive are necessary to bee carryed downe, and Mr Jessop is to take notice thereof and issue out monyes for the charge thereof accordingly
- 15/03/53 5 Ordered that the Comissioners attendants as also the Adventurers and also servants that are desired to goe down into the levell and officers of the Companie shall have perticularly allowed from the Companie for horses that shall be hyred after the rate of 2s 6d a day besides horsemeal untill the session bee ended and their retorne to London. And the receivor of the Companie is to take notice thereof and paie the same accordingly and this shall bee his warrant in that behalf.
- 15/03/53 6 Mr Haesdonke a Dutchman brought in a perticuler in writinge read over to the Company, whereby hee on behalfe of severall dutchment made clayme and tithe to the 1st lott.
- 15/03/53 7 The Company gave answer in regard the land in that lott does belong to other persons, it is most requisite that whosoever hath the said land shall have notice given them in convenient tyme to put in their answer to the same.
- 17/03/53 1 Mr Edward Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Mr Holworthy, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Holman, Sir John Potts, Mr Henry Henne, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Alexander Jones
- 17/03/53 2 Resolved upon the question and ordered that Mr Thurloe shall at his owne charge have liberty to set a tonnell by Elderwell through the bancke on the south side of Moretons Leame into his Adventurers Lande
- 17/03/53 3 Ordered that Mr Hugh Peters and Mr Cochrane bee desired to attend the Comissioners and accompany them to Elie the 24th March instant
- 17/03/53 4 Ordered that Mr Peters be desired to preach before the Comissioners at Elie the 24th March instant.
- 17/03/53 5 Ordered that Mr Thurloe bee desired to procure a letter from the Lord Generall Cromwell to require his troops quartered at Elie or there abouts to meete the Comissioners on Wednesdaie next and accompany them to Elie
- 17/03/53 6 **[Page 65]** Whereas at the desire of the towne of Over, signified by Major Generall Disbrow, that instead of Mr Robert West and Mr Ackhurst, Comissioners formerly named on the townes parte, that Mr Robson and Mr James Disbrow may bee named Comissioners on the behalfe of that towne which is assented unto by the Companie, and Mr Thomas Dereham and Mr Farrier are named Comissioners on behalfe of the Company and they are to proceede accvordingly to the order of the 26th June last to end all differences betweene the towne and Companie (if they can) or else certifie they are desired to expedite the busines.
- 17/03/53 7 Wheres the towne of Denver have complayned to the Companie that by making of Downham Eau and the were dikes through their lands, they are cut of from some part of thereof to their great damage and prejudice, and thereupon have desired they may have a way made for them over the said Downham Eau unto their said

growndes or such satisfaction given for the damage susteyened hereby as is just, which the Companie, takinge into consideration, doe order that Mr Moore doe treate and agree with the towne of Denver on the behalfe of the Companie for a reasonable satisfaction to bee given them for the said damage complayned of for want of a way, so as the sum agreed to bee paid by the Companie exceede not £120. And what shall bee agreed upon shall bee in full satisfaction for all demand of damage pretended or to bee pretended by reason of a want of a passage to their grownd and the Companie to be wholly discharged from all future charge whatsoever relatinge to that busines

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| 17/03/53 | 8 | Whereas there is a clayme made unto two hundred acres of land by the Lord Generall Cromwell as it is butted and bounded in a perticuler represented to the Companie by Mr Thurloe, it is ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour take espetiall care to enquire out the said parcell of land and examyn where the said 200 acres now lyes, and in whose possession, and to give a speedy account thereof to the Company |
| 17/03/53 | 9 | Ordered that Mr Jessop, the receiver of the Company, and the expendor shall bee att liberty to draw bills and issue out charges for the service of the Companie, any former order of restraunte notwithstanding |
| 17/03/53 | 10 | Whereas Mr Jessop hath paid Sir Cornelius Vermuyden the sum of twenty poundes besides the £40 mentioned in a memorand of the [] last. |
| 17/03/53 | 11 | It is declared that the said £20 shall bee allowed him allthough noe perticuler order is made therein, hee having disbursed the some for the service of the Company |
| 17/03/53 p.m. | 1 | Sir John Potts, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Sherriffe Underwood |
| 17/03/53 p.m. | 2 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Moore the surveyor as followeth |
- Mr Moore - The Lords and others contynue their resolutions of goinge towards Elie on Monday next and because it will bee of much importance to have them and the Adventurers well accomodated with lodgings, towards which a good advantage will bee given by a tymely provision in that behalf, the Companie have comanded mee by way of addition to their former order to desire you speedily to take up and secure for their service all the convenient lodgings in that towne that can bee had and that they may bee most properly applyed to the persons that are to goe downe accordinge to their respective quallities. Their names are in a paper enclosed. Mr Holman, a member of the Companie, is desired to goe from here tomorrow so as they hope hee will not fayle to bee att Elie on Monday next for the purpose aforesaid. In the mean tyme, your nowe spectiall care is desired herein, and as there shall bee **[Page 66]** occasion you will call in the helpe and care of Mr Tench if hee bee thereabouts or of such other person as you shall see cause to imploy for further cause of service. Having performed the comands enjoyed mee I rest.
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| | 3 | Ordered that Mr Holman, one of the members of the Company, bee desired to goe before the Comissioners and provide lodgings and accomodations both for the Comissioners and Adventurers whose names are sett downe in a paper herewith delivered unto him. And for all such accomodations, satisfaction shall bee given by a member of the Company appointed for that purpose at Stevenage, St Ives and Elie, and the Company doe desire the owner of private howses as well as Inne keepers to give what accomodation and respecte they can. |
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- 18/03/53 1 Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir John Potts, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Henley, Mr Adams, Mr Say, Mr Sherriffe Underwood, Mr Potts, Colonell William Smith, Captain Blackwall, Mr Holworthy, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Trenchard, Mr Marsham.
- 18/03/53 2 The paper of arreres beinge read over, it appeared that there was due for taxes in arrere upon the 5th lott some £625, whereupon the Companie present thought fitt to expose the said lott to sale
- And resolved upon the question
- That the said 5th lott shall bee exposed to sale
- 18/03/53 3 Whereas Robert Henley Snr Esquire, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight and others, some or one of them have made default in payinge in the tax of 15d an acres due the 20th July and 20th August last, as also the tax of 15d an acres due the 9th and 14th December last past and 7d an acres or the first payment of tax of 2s 6d an acre due of February last for or in respecte of his or their share of proportion of one entyre lott or 4000 acres, beinge the fifth lott, amountinge to the sum of £625, now for as much as the said 4000 acres were this day exposed to sale and Thomas Crompton, now beinge present, offered 42s an acres for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration thereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof the Company, by vertue and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 4000 acres unto the said Mr Crompton and his heirs to have and to hold the said 4000 acres unto him the said Thomas Crompton, his heirs and assigned provided that the said £625 bee paid within a weeke after the date hereof unto the receivor of the Company and the residue of the said purchase mony, within a month after the date hereof, which is to bee restored to the right owners accordinge to the Acte, otherwise the order of sale is not onely void but hee is to incurre such penalties as are enjoined by former orders of the Companie.
- 18/03/53 4 Whereas the heires or assigned of Thomas Matthews, some or one of them, have or hath made default in payinge in the tax of an acre due and payable [] for his or their share or proportion of 200 acres in the 14th lott amounting to the sum of [] now for asmuch as the said 200 acres were this daie exposed to sale and George Dalton, now being present, offered 40s an acres for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration thereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof the Company, by vertue and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 200 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heirs to have and to hold **[Page 67]** the said 200 acres unto him the said George Dalton, his heirs and assigned, provided that the said mony and every part thereof be bee paid within a weeke according to the order of the Company, otherwise the order of sale is not onely void but the said George Dalton is to incurre such penalties as are enjoined. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said purchase mony as aforesaid, a conveyance is to him made to the said George Dalton or his heires (of the said land) or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to his or their heires.
- 18/03/53 5 Whereas Thomas Newrie hath made default in paying the 1st payment of the tax of 2s 6d an acre payable the 25th February last for his share or proportion of 90 acres in the 3rd lott amountinge to the sum of £02.16.03, forasmuch as the said 90 acres were this day exposed to sale and Mr W.Jessop, now beinge present, offered 40s an acres for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to paie all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration thereof and for as much as it beinge their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof the Company, by vertue and according

to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 90 acres unto the said W.Jessop and his heirs to have and to hold, provided and according to former order the purchase mony bee paid within a weeke into the treasury or else this order is void, whereupon a conveyance is to be made accordinge to the order of the Company.

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| 18/03/53 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Jessop the receivor bee desired to paie into Mr Dun, one of the cookes appointed to goe downe, the sum of three poundes upon account, besides the sum of twenty poundes formerly paid unto him. |
| 18/03/53 | 7 | Ordered that tomorrow morninge bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters lands in payinge in their taxes. |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 1 | Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir John Potts, Mr Staunton, Mr Trafford, Mr Sherriffe Underwood, Mr Neale, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Fountayne, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Gale |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 2 | Ordered that Mr Henley bee desired to take into his care to find a messenger with a letter to my Lord Chief Justice St John to Enfield upon espetiall service of the Company and it is referred to him to agree with the messenger what shall have for his paynes and Mr Jessop the receivor is accordingly to pay the same. |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 3 | Ordered that Mr Kennedy shall have allowed and paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie on his attendance about the engrossinge the Acte of Adjudication the sum of ten shillings |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 4 | Ordered that Mr Jessop doe paie unto Mr Hall, attorney of the Durhie, the sum of twenty poundes for his fee beinge retuyned of counsell for the Company against the session of the Comissioners at Elie 24th March instant |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 5 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Thomas Dereham and Mr Henry Farrer, refferees named on the Companyes parte, that they would bee pleased to meete Mr Robson and Mr James Disborow, the other refferees on the townes part, to the intent they may both agree to meete at Over some time in Easter weeke next to accommodate all differences betweene the Company and the said towne, or otherwise certifie the Comissioners, and they are desired to sett downe some certaine day and that the place of meetinge may bee att Over. |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 6 | Whereas there is noe some of money paid in to the receivor of the Companie by Mr Crompton for or in respecte of the 5th lott in pursuance of the order of the 31st of October 1651 it is, therefore, ordered and the Companie doe declare that the order of contracte made this day touching the said lott be void. |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 7 | Ordered that as the 483 acres on West Fenne in the 5th lott standing on the head of Juxon and Rogers, the taxes due for the said land, shall bee paid in <i>de bene esse</i> to the handes of the receivor of the Companie untill it bee knowne who of right ought to pay the same. |
| 18/03/53 p.m | 7 | Ordered that Mr Jessop the receivor of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Mr Spaldinge the sum of eleaven poundes for his paines in copyinge and engrossinge of two parts, eight skyines in a part, and for his attendance on the Company. And Mr Battison is to have paid him by the receivor for his paines in copyinge out part of the said Acte the sum of forty shillings. |

[Folded into page 67]

Whereas severall persons here after named made default in payinge in the tax of 7d

an acre the 25th February last for their respective proportions of land that is to say

- 700 acres in the 2nd lott - late Thomas Bates and contracted for by Mr William Jessop
- 334 acres in the 6th lott - late Robert Henley Snr Esqr
- 300 acres in the 8th lott - Thomas Hampson Esqr
- 250 acres in the 8th lott - late Isaac Jones Esqr
- 750 acres in the 8th lott - John Walker and Richard Downinge
- 750 acres in the 13th lott - Robert Henley Snr Esqr
- 500 acres in the 13th lott - late his proportion and formly Mr Holland and Mr Phillips
- 700 acres in the 17th lott - Robert Henley Snr Esqr
- 100 acres in the 17th lott - John Trenchard and lately contracted for the R Hene
- 200 acres in the 17th lott - Andrew Henley and Robert Henley Jnr
- 569 acres in the 18th lott - John Walker and Robert Henley Jnr

Amounting to the sum of £145.03.01, now forasmuch the said severall parcells of land amounting to 4653 acres, were this daie exposed to sale, and John Trafford offered £03.12.00 an acre for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing thereof due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it beinge their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof the Company, by vertue and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 4653 acres unto the said John Trafford and his heirs to have and to hold the said 4653 acres unto him the said John Trafford, provided that the sum of £145.08.01 and every part thereof within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receiver of the Company and the remaynder of the said purchase is to bee restored to the right owner or owners within three months next after the date hereof, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said John Trafford is to paie such penaltyes as by the orders of the Companie as enjoyned, and upon payment of the purchase money, in manner as aforesaid, John Trafford shall have an assurance of the said landes from the Companie made unto him and his heirs or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to his and their heirs

19/03/53	1	[Page 68] Mr Edward Russell, Sir John Potts, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Adams, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Potts, Mr Walker, Mr William Smith
19/03/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop doe paie unto Mr Liste the sum of ten poundes for his fee, beinge reteyned of councell for the Company against the session of the Comissioners at Elie the 24th of March instant.
19/03/53 p.m	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr Henne, Mr Adams, Mr Thurloe, Sir John Potts, Mt Sheriffe Underwood, Mr William Weston, Mr Walker
19/03/53 p.m	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop the receiver of the Company bee hereby authorized to issue out and paie all such some and sums of mony as well in towne and out of towne in order to the journey to Elie touchinge the adjudication as hee shall conceive necessary to bee layd out and expended for the purpose aforesaid, takinge an acquittance for every sum as shall bee paid and placing the same to his account which shall bee a sufficient discharge to the said receiver.
19/03/53 p.m	3	A letter from the Lord Generall to Captain Hunter or the officer in chiefe of his Excellencyes troop to attend the Lord Comissioners to Elie and so to wayte upon them untill their retorne to London beinge read

- 19/03/53 p.m 4 Mr Clapthorne, Chiefe Bayliffe in the Isle was by the Company desired to write to the said Captain Hunter to meete the Comissioners att Erith bridge with his troope about 10 a clocke on Wednesday morninge next, signifyinge that at the same tyme and place hee himselfe would bee there with his deputie and bayliffes to attend the Comissioners
- 19/03/53 p.m 5 Which letter of the Generalls enclosed was send by Mr Arundell who was directed to make hast to deliver the same together with a letter to his deputies and bayliffes and give account to the Companie att their meetinge at St Ives
- 19/03/53 p.m 6 The letter from the Councell of State was resumed touchinge the entertainment of several Dutch prisoners and reade out as followeth
- There beinge several Dutch prisoners taken in the late engagement att sea between the fleete of the Commonwealth and that of the United Provinces, and understandinge they may bee usefull to you in your workes in the Great Levell of the Fennes, have thought fitt to lett you know that wee shall bee willinge to dispose of them for that purpose in case you shall signifie unto us your desires on that behalfe
- Signed in the name and by order of the Councell of State appointed by the authority of Parliament
- Salisbury
- Ex p John Thurloe
- 19/03/53 p.m 7 Ordered that Mr Henley in the name of the Company bee desired to signe this ensuing letter (in answer to the former) directed to the Councell of State.
- Wee are very sensible and thankfull for your honorable proposall and offer to us of Dutch prisoners as are fitt to bee employed in our works in the Great Levell of Fennes and if you shall please to spare and send to us to bee delivered at Lynne such as are sound and fitt for labour, wee shall take order there to receive them which nevertheles wee humbly submitt to your Lordshipps honorable direction
- 19/03/53 p.m 8 **[Page 69]** Ordered that the Companie now present doe adjourne to meete at the Bell att Elie the 24th of March instant and nothing is to bee acted or done here at Mr Henleyes howse or elsewhere in London untill they retorne
- 25/03/53 1 Att the Bell at Elie
- Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Parthrich, Mr Adams, Mr Fountayne, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Potts, Mr Culpeper
- 25/03/53 2 Ordered that Mr Hamond give warrant to the expeditor to paie to the Lord of the towne of Denver by consent of the towne the sum of £120 in satisfaction of the buildinge and maynteyninge the bridge over Downham Eau and forelands, and in full performance of the certificate of [], and £127.10.06 for the land cutt for the new Owze bancke certified by Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour and to take care to see the same conveyed.
- 25/03/53 3 Ordered that Mr Keeble shall have three poundes paid unto him over and above his fee formerly received, beinge of councell for the Companie touchinge the adjudication att Elie

26/03/53	1	At Mr Henleyes lodging at Elie Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr William Crane, Mr Adams, Mr John Arthur, Mr B.Arthur, Mr John Russell, Mr William Smith, Captain Blackwall, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Trafford, Mr Hampson, Major Blake, Mr Holman, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Browne, Mr Dey, Mr Potts, Mr Bland, Mr Lane, Mr Bardley, Mr Jessop
26/03/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to send a hundred poundes to Cambridge to defray the charges of the Lords and other Comissioners on the journey to London
26/03/53	3	Upon readinge of the petition of the wife Stacey, it is ordered that the poore widow shall have the sum of twenty shillings as a free gift from the Companie in respect of her husbandes former serving and her poverty, paid unto her forthwith by the receivor of the Company
26/03/53	4	Whereas it was enformed that Mr Westrop, to prevent the clamour about backe floores had paid and issued out of his owne purse the sum of five poundes to one Gardiners wife, it is ordered that Mr Westrop shall bee reimbursed the said sum of five poundes provided that hee obteyne a discharge and an acquittance in full of all demandes from her touchinge back floores
26/03/53	5	Upon the petition of Thomas Bert, shewing that the Companie have taken 4 acres out of 8 acres of land lyinge in Wellnea and likewise had hindered his egres and repries to the Comon and therefore prayed that hee might have right in this behalfe, it is ordered that it bee referred to the consideration of Mr Hamond and Mr Moore to examyn the truth of the said petition and thereupon certifie the Companie
26/03/53	6	Upon the petition of the inhabitants of Wellney read over, thereby shewing that the Adventurers have cut through and spoiled 100 acres and upwards of their freehold landes, which they alledge was given to them and in name of the chappell and poore of the said towne and therefore desired some satisfaction whereupon, it is ordered that the petition bee referred to the consideration of Mr Hamond who is desired to examyn the truth thereof and certifie the Company
26/03/53	7	The petiton of Thomas Neale of March beinge read over the Company resolved to conferre with Mr Moore touchinge satisfaction demanded by the perticuler for mappes
26/03/53	8	[Page 70] Petitions of Robert Tompson of Mepall read over the Company made answer that in regard it was so long agoe the mony demanded to bee due as is alledged, they conceive it hath byn paid, the petitioner not being able to make it otherwise appeare
26/03/53	9	Petition of Coveney and Wickam read over Answer of the Companie That the proportion taken of their lande in Byall Fen was not onely in relation to the petitioners but to the towne of Elie and other townes which have intercomon in the said fen and if the proportion here exceede the 3rd part as is alledged, there was the lesse taken nere Elie and the other townes and the Companie conceive that the petitioners interests is not so considerable as the interest of the towne of Elie and other townes adjacent.

- 26/03/53 10 That for the settinge of a bridge over the new river, it is conceived it cannot bee safely done by reason of the badnes of the soyle and the great water is like to bee in the river and wash but that a way is lockspitted out for them through the towne of Meapall and so along upon the diserted bancke of Bedford River to Byall Fen where they shall and may have free liberty to passe
- 26/03/53 11 Sir Cornelius Vermuydens designe for the dreyninge of the south levell, read over to the Lordes and other Comissioners as followeth.
- The designe in what manner to south levell of the Fennes is dreyned, humbly presented to the right honorable the Lordes and other Comissioners nominated in the late Acte of Parliament, at Elie the 24th day of March 1652 by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight director of the workes.
 - The Great Levell of the Fennes extendinge itselfe into the six countyes, named in the said Acte of Parliament, is now devided by banckes into 3 levells, namely the North Levell, the Liddle Levell and the South Levell, so called from their respective locations, whereof the 2 former are allready adjudged dreyned by the Law at Peterborough, bearinge date the 24th March 1650 and are so farr improved that there are about 40000 acres at this tyme sowne with cole seede, wheate and other winter graine besides innumerable quantites of sheepe, cattle and other stocke where never had byn any before, and not surrounded since the adjudication being now 2 years past.
 - The South Levell whereupon your Lordshipps judgement is now humbly demanded is devided from the Middle Levell by straight bankes and a great river which runneth from Erith in the County of Huntingdon to a place called Salters Loade in the County of Norffolke about one and twenty miles and extends itselfe eastward and southward to the high land of Norffolke and Suffolke and westward upon the high landes of the County of Cambridge conteyninge by estimation about one hundred and thirty thousand acres of land.
 - Though this South Levell be watered by 5 rivers which come through it and did heretofore occasion the surrounding thereof, namely the River of Owze, the River of Grant, the River of Mildenhall, the River of Brandon and the River of Stoake, all mentioned in the said late Acte of Parliament, yet it is generally knowne that the overflowinge of the said levell was occasioned chiefly by the River of Owze which is a very great water in the tyme of floodes, cominge downe from Newport Pagnell, Bedford and the parts adjacent and did discharge itselfe into the great body of the Fennes by reason first that the old channel of the Owze was insufficient for such water havinge neither breadth or depth proportionable, beinge in many places not above one foote and two foote deepe under sayle as namely at Willingham Gravel, Twenty Pence and Stretham Gravel, secondly because the said River of Owze ran in a circular course to the fall, goinge upon the south of Elie above twenty miles above whereby the fall was lessened and havinge noe sufficient banckes to keepe in the water it must of necessity overspread the levell, espetially which is the 3rd and last reason, because the said water cominge to Harrimere and Elie there mett with the River of Grant which came from Cambridge and the tydes from sea which checked his course and forced him over the surface of the Fennes, filling the other 4 rivers also which all fell also into that channell with their water and checkinge their course to the sea, also did occasion their puttinge over of their water upon the levell though not in so great proportions.
 - This beinge the undoubted causes of the inundation of this Countrie, I did

conclude with myselfe that the best way of dreyning would be first to take of the River of Owze from its old channell and in a shorter and straighter lyne to the fall so that it should run by twenty myles or there abouts to come to Salters Loade, whereas it ran above fortie before, which I have done by adding a large bancke of fiftie and sixtie foote in the seate and 9,10 and 12 foote high, drawne from the high land of Over above Erith to Salters Loade aforesaid on the south side of the said river nere Bedford River to restrayne it from overflowinge this South Levell **[Page 71]**, leaving a large wash betweene that and the north bancke, beinge halfe a myle over where it is broadest in the fashion of that which runs from Peterburgh to Guyhurne between the other two adjudged levells. Onely to satisfye the demandes of some who desire to contynue navigation with small boates in the old channel of Owze from Erith toward Cambridge, I made a navigable sasse att Erith upon the said old River of Owze to preserve that navigation. Secondly I thought it necessary to shutt out the tydes from cominge the old way up to Harrimore by a dam made over the old Owze nere Salters Loade, leavinge to the tyde the new channel aforesaid and the whole wash to play over, and then rather because the outfall would bee the better preserved and the towne of Lyn should have no cause to complayne that any damage should come to theire haven by the reason of this dreyninge, placinge a double sasse near the said dam of twenty fower foote waterway with freshwater dores thereby to bee able both to hold in and lett goe the water as there should bee occasion and preserve the navigation from Cambridge.

- The diversion of the Owze and of the tydes, beinge made, both plainly demonstrate that the old channel of the Owze will receive the water of the fower lesser rivers aforesaid viz - Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon and Stoake and least it might bee objected that duringe the stop the tyde makes, which is about 4 howers in 12, the said 4 lesser rivers of Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon and Stoake would swell upwards and overflow the soyle on the Fennes for want of banckes, I did judge it convenient to cause the rivers upwards to bee imbanked with sufficient banckes leavinge proportionable receptacles betweene the said banckes for any soadaine downefall that might happen to splash over for a while.
- And because some doubt might bee made that the said double sasse att Salters Loade would not bee capable to vente the waters of the said 4 lesser rivers and the downefall, as likewise that the fall there was not sufficient in tyme of land floodes, I did direct a new dreyne of 114 foote wide and six foote deepe to bee made from the said dam over the old Owze nere Salters Loade on the east side of the said river through the land of Denver, Downham and Stow beyond Stow bridge about 4 myles in length, fenced with great banckes on eyther side and 3 large sluces placed att the lower ende of the said dreyne of 24 foote water way, a peece where the water into Owze hath a better fall by 6 foote and a halfe and runs sooner and longer then at the said double sasse nere Salters Loade that there might bee noe question but that the said fower rivers would bee sufficiently provided for. And yet least, whilst I was dreyninge, I might not prejudice the navigation from Cambridge to Salters Loade and so to Lyn in regard the tydes were stopt out att Salters Loade and the old channel of Owse here to Elie beinge exceedinge large and spacious and very shallow by reason whereof the navigation formerly in dry tymes and upon all neape tydes in sumer was obstructed, I caused a watergage to bee sett upon this said river nere Elie at a place called Russell Hill to keep up the water att a gage and then made a little cutt by about a myle in length sufficient for boates to passe att all tymes and which is fedd with water sufficient from Grant River to supply it by reason of the narrownes now it is of, so that the navigation is now better and more certaine then formerly.

- And allthough theis great workes are those onely directed by the Acte of Parliament yet I have diverse other little workes to convey both little brookes and also the downfall in the said South Levell.
- This beinge the sum of my design for the dreyninge of the South Levell accordinge to the intent of the last Acte of Parliament, I am ready to prove by witnesses that the workes here mentioned are well and sufficiently performed att the exceedinge great cost of the Earle of Bedford and his Adventurers and Participants and now the whole levell is entyrelly dreyned. And there is not, besides the meres, pooles and lakes which are excepted and not to bee dreyned, with the intention of the said Acte any part of the said levell undreyned more then the washes and receptacles which doe not exceede 12000 acres whereas the Acte gives liberty for 15000 acres
- Theis works have approved themselves sufficient as well by the great tyde, about a month since, which overflowed marsh lande banckes and drowned much grownd in Lincolnshire and other places, and a flood by reason of a great snow and rayne upon it, followinge soone after and yet never hurt my part of the whole levell and the view of them and the consideration of what hath byn formerly said proves a cleere dreyninge accordinge to the said Acte.
- If anything shall bee with reason objected against the said dreyninge, I am ready to answer the same and, as I hope, to your Lordshipps satisfaction and make it appeare to your Lordshipps that the designe is perfecte, well executed, and every way sufficient for the intended dreyninge without prejudice to navigation in the said rivers and parts adjacent.

[Page 72]

- I presume not to say more of the workes least I should bee accounted vainglorious allthough I might truly affirme that the present or former age have done nothings like it for the greatt good of the nation. I finally desire that God may have the glory for his blessing and bringinge to perfection my poore endeavors at the vast charge of the Earle of Bedford and his Participants.

And humbly submitted all to your Lordshipps judgement

Cornelius Vermuyden

- | | | |
|----------|----|---|
| 26/03/53 | 12 | <p>The certificates of Mr Jonas Moore surveyour of the receptacles taken in by the brookes and appointment of the director Sir Cornelius Vermuyden that they doe not exceede the quantityes following -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The Wash of Stoake River - 400.00.00 acres — The Wash of Brandon River- 800.00.00 acres — The Wash of Mildenhall - 400.00.00 acres — The Wash of New Owze - 5800.00.00 acres — The Wash of Neane - 3500.00.00 acres — The Wash nere Elie - 1000.00.00 acres — The Wash of Grant - 200.00.00 acres |
|----------|----|---|

Jonas Moore

28/03/53	1	At Elie Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Adams, Mr S.Smith, Mr Crane, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Potts, Mr Bland, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Henne, Mr Edawrd Russell, Mr Dallow, Mr Browne, Mr Holeman
28/03/53	2	Ordered that letters bee written to the severall refferees names by the Adventurers to joyne with the refferees to bee incerted in the order for the Country and Mr Sam Smith is desired to see the letters delivered.
28/03/53	3	Ordered that the lodgings for the severall members and officers of the Companie that came to Elie and the bills for their horse meale bee paid by the severall Adventurers and officers or their servants and upon ticketts delivered by the respective Adventurers or officers of the sum by them paid, Mr Jessop is forthwith to repaie the same with the priority of Mr Bradley
28/03/53	4	Petition of Francis Nutt of Wilburton read over to the Companie desiringe £21.19.07 to bee paid him for old arreres Answer of the Company That in regard it was so long agoe and the petitioner not beeinge able to prove the money was not paid, the Company have cause to conceive the money demandes is allready paid and therefore can make noe order therein
28/03/53	5	Upon the petition of George Baggerley of Crowland, read over to the Companie, it is ordered that Mr B.Arthur bee desired to pay in to the treasury to Mr Jessop the receivor the sum of nyne poundes which hee was formerly desired by order of the Company to deteyne in his handes, and upon consideration thereof, the Companie doe now see noe cause why the petitioner should have the same in regard hee hath byn much overpaid allready
28/03/53	6	Ordered that Downham Eau dreyne bee by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden taken into consideration to the intent it may bee speedily finished, and to that purpose care is to bee taken that 600 deales are forthwith sent from Erith to Downham Eau for the finishing thereof.
28/03/53	7	Ordered that for the better navigation to Cambridge, Elie and the parts adjacent, there bee two heades of a sasse sett and layd upon the lower end of the narrow cutt below Elie nere the howse there, for the boates to passe through to keepe up the water in a higher measure then now it is and without prejudice to the dreyning of all the levell below it, the said heades to stand distant one from another so farr as that a gauge of boates may come between it and passe to and for, as occasion shall require, and this sasse to bee made and layd downe forthwith
28/03/53	8	[Page 73] Whereas Tompson, Walker and Nutt amongst other poore men have petitioned the Company for old debts alledged to bee due to them for lockspittinge in former tymes but in regard it beinge long agoe and they not able to make appeare how the same is instantly due, it is ordered that the said Tompson, Walker and Nutt bee recomended to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Hamond who are desired to employ them in the service of the Companie by lockspitting or otherwise as they shall thinke fitt.
28/03/53 p.m.	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Hamond, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Bland, Mr

- 28/03/53 p.m. 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Lieutenantt Colonell Dymond to this effecte touchinge the cuttinge of dams by severall persons that upon theire submission and satisfaction, given to the Company, noe further prosecution shall bee made against them which was send accordingly.
- 28/03/53 p.m. 3 Ordered that it be referred to Mr Moore the surveyour to take into his consideration the order of sewers made at Huntingdon upon the petition of Samuelle Thorneton Esqr read over to the Company touchinge a mistake in admeasuringe of the grownd in the petition mentioned, and Mr Moore is to examymn the same and forthwith certifie the truth thereof to the Company, whereupon such order shall bee made therein as shall bee thought fitt.
- 28/03/53 p.m. 4 Resolved upon the question

That all devision dikes that are to devide the Adventurers landes from the Country shall hence forewards bee 12 foote in breadth in the top 8 foote in the bottom and 5 foote deepe
- 28/03/53 p.m. 5 Resolved

That all lott devisions shall bee nyne foote broad at the toppe, 5 foote deepe and 6 foote in the bottome and the earth is to be cast of both sides and is to bee cessed two foote off
- 28/03/53 p.m. 6 Resolved

That the orders and resolves made the 11th of March last touchinge devision dikes bee made void
- 28/03/53 p.m. 7 The Company taking into consideration the devidinge of the south levell doe hereby order that there bee appointed fower surveyours to take care of the fower levells on the south side of Bedford River, hereafter followinge (that is to say)
- 1 Levell, all the land between old Bedford River and the old Owze
2 Levell, all the levell betweene Stoake River and Brandon and on each side of Stoake adjoynginge upon the high landes of Norffolke
3 Levell between Brandon and Mildenhall Rivers and old Owze and the hills of Suffolke
4 Levell from Mildenhall and Grant and on each side Grant and on the side of old Owze and the uplandes of Cambridge
- [By]
- 1 Surveyour William Palmer for the 1st Levell for whome Sir Edward Partherich and Mr Hamond doe engage as security
2 Surveyour Gabrielle Ellyott for the 2nd Levell for whome Mr Henley doe engage as security
3 Surveyour Jonas Moore for the 3rd Levell
4 Surveyour Thomas Wright for whome Mr Henley doe engage
- 28/03/53 p.m. 8 **[Page 74]** And it is ordered that Mr Jonas Moore is to bee the surveyour of the surveyours, and they are all to observe his direction in each of the said 4 levells from tyme to tyme, and are all to take care that the said South Levell bee perfectly

lockspitted by the 20th Aprill next by the farthest and that the ring dikes to devide the Adventurers landes from the Country bee wholly done before any lott devidions bee taken in hand. And if any Adventurer hath a mynde to devide from the Country by entering dikes, hee shall bee allowed for the 12 foote dikes beinge 12 foote wide in the top, 8 foote wide in the bottom and 5 foote deepe and 2 foote cesse of the earth throwne out, the sum of 14d a rod. And likewise if any Adventurer hath a mynde to devide lott from lott, it ought to bee by a 9 foote dike on the top 5 foote deep and 6 foote wide in the bottome for which hee shall be allowed 10d a rod which is to be paid by the expendor upon a certificate from the surveyour in the levell where it lyeth that the same is done accordingly and that certificate to bee signed by Mr Hamond.

28/03/53 p.m. 9 Upon readinge the petition of Edmund Welsh desiringe an increase of sallary from the Companie, in regard Mr Burton beinge lately dead, more employment is put upon him then formerly, it is ordered that hee shall have ten poundes forthwith paid unto him and ten poundes more when Downham Eau is finished which is to bee paid by the expendor upon Mr Hamonds warrant.

28/03/53 p.m. 8 Ordered that Mr Burtons sonne, or any other who is his executor or administrator, shall have allowed and paid unto him the sum of five and twenty poundes beinge his quarters sallary due att Michalmas last and the comptrollers warrant to the expendor shall be his sufficient discharge for payment thereof

28/03/53 p.m. 9 Upon reading the petition of Richard Kendall, it was acknowledged that hee receive the sum of a hundred poundes of the Companie beinge deposited in his hands for the setting of two sluces at Croyland and Guyhurne but in regard the same are not yet done the Companie demandes to leave the same restored, whereupon hee alledged his land att Guyhurne was cutt through and prejudiced by the Company and demanded satisfaction, it is ordered that fower and fortie poundes part of the said sum bee by the petitioners some tyme this weeke paid into the expendor and the other twenty poundes is to remayne in his handes untill his landes alledged to bee cutt and damaged may bee surveyed and satisfaction given him. And Mr Hamond is desired to take order for the surveyinge thereof to the intent satisfaction may bee given unto the petitioner.

28/03/53 p.m. 10 Mr George Barnes, his petition read over desiringe hee may stand cleere in the eies of the Companie and his reputation may bee vindicated from the aspersion layd against, which the Companie taking into consideration doe at present approve thereof

28/03/53 p.m. 11 Ordered that the expendor bee contynued untill the Companie shall take further order and in the meane tyme Mr Jessop is desired to state and audite his accounts with all convenient speede. And all other officers of the Companie are likewise required to attend him at Lyn or at any other place as hee shall thinke fitt for the purpose aforesaid.

28/03/53 p.m. 12 Ordered that Mr Edmund Farrer and Mr Groves bee desired to attend the refferees on the Companies part to take the despositions of witnesses in writing at their meeting, accordinge as they shall have notice of the tyme and place from the Company and to draw up certificates as the references appoints.

28/03/53 p.m. 13 Resolved upon the question

That all the banckes as well on the south as on the north side of Bedford River that are built and finished shall bee preserved and taken care of by some able and fitt persons to bee employed for that purpose

- 28/03/53 p.m. 14 Ordered that Mr Gorges and Major Alexander Blake bee desired to take care and oversight of all the severall banckes and workes on the north side of Bedford River that are allready ordered to bee done and that are not by former order comanded to the care of W.St John Esquire, and they are impowered to call to theire assistance Edmund Welsh who is from tyme to tyme to make contracts for all such repaires as they shall thinke fitt to bee made on the said banckes, and upon the certificate of the said Edmund Welsh that the worke is done accordinge to contracte, theire or eyther of theire warrants to the expendor shall bee his sufficient discharge for the issueinge out all such sum and sums of money.
- 29/03/53 1 **[Page 75]** Earle of Bedford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Adams, Mr Crane, Mr Hamond, Mr Trafford, Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood
- 29/03/53 2 Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee contynued as director of the workes as formerly hee was and shall have the same power as formerly hee did, and Mr Hamond also is contynued in the employment as formerly he was untill further order.
- 29/03/53 3 Ordered that for the better expediting of the surveyinge of the south levell, Mr Moore the surveyour shall bee impowered to nominate and imploy such other surveyours (besides what the Companie have allready named) as hee shall thinke fitt with respect still to bee had they follow the direction of Mr Moore from tyme to tyme together with Mr Hamonds approbation therein. And such surveyours are to bee employed untill the 1st of May next.
- 29/03/53 4 Whereas the Companie have desired Mr Gorges to joyne with Major Blake to take care and oversight of the severall banckes workes and dreynes in the north side of Bedford River, in order whereupon it is hereby thought fitt and ordered that it be recomended to them to consider where to erect poundes for impoundinge of cattle as occasion shall require, and to see that dores are made to all tonnells in the said levell, and are hereby impowered and authorized from tyme to tyme to acte and put into execution all such other matters and thinges as they in theire judgment shall conceive necessary towards the repayringe, pereserving and mainteyninge the said banckes, workes and dreynes, and are desired to give frequent advice to the Companie from tyme to tyme of the state of theire affayes.
- 29/03/53 5 Petition of some workemen touchinge backfloores read over
- Answer of the Companie
- That they have not authorized Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to make any contracte att all and that Burton had noe power from them to make any second contracte for backe floores after hee had made the originall contracte for the whole bancke as hee did for the bancke in question, that the Adventurers nevertheles have paid some who were reasonable in theyre demandes but these men standinge upon the strictnes of theire present contracts, they doe not hold themselves obliged in law or equity to pay them.
- 29/03/53 6 Ordered upon reading the petition of John Hatton that hee attend Mr Jessop with his accounts touching materialls in his charge, whereupon Mr Jessop is desired to examyn the same and certifie the Companie
- 29/03/53 7 The Companie, takinge into consideration the good service of theire messenger Alexander MackDell, doe order that hee shall have a suyte of clothes provided at the charge of fiftie shillings price and it is referred to Mr Hamond to see the order

executed.

- 29/03/53 8 Ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour shall have full power and authoritye to apportion all the severalls in the south side Bedford River to the severall and respective lotts as the same is provided for in the lott booke of the Companie, and where there is noe light by the lott booke then to devide the severalls in order as the lotts fall out which hee is to take care to see done with the most equality that may bee.
- 29/03/53 9 Ordered that Mr Hamond doe give warrant to the expeditor for payment of a hundred poundes to Mr Jonas Moore upon account for to pay lockspitting and surveyours on the South Levell, or otherwise, as cause shall require for manageing the work on the South Levell.
- 29/03/53 10 **[Page 76]** Ordered that the Compamie doe adjourne to meete againe att London att the usuall place of meetings the Monday next after Easter Monday, and in the meane tyme Mr Henley, Mr Adams, Mr Hamond, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden of any two of them are hereby named a committee and impowered to manage all busines on the behalfe of the Company touchinge the refferences appointed by the Lords and other Comissioners at theire last session, or any other refferences concerninge the Companie, and like wish to appoint and order accordinge to theire judgement and discrettion all busines touchinge the South Levell for the good of the Companie untill further order, and the clarke is to attend this committee at Elie or where else they shall thinke fitt untill the meetings of the Companie in London.
- 18/04/53 1 Mr Henleyes howse

Mr John Russell, Mr Edward Russell, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr Bridges, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marsham, Mr Bridges, Mr Samuell, Mr Staunton, Mr Maniston, Mr Alex Jones, Mt Sheriffe Underwood, Dr Fryer
- 18/04/53 2 Mr Henley made report what was transferred before and after the adjudication and gave an account of the severall refferences and what was done there upon
- 18/04/53 3 Sir John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marshall and two or three of them are desired to consider of some proposalls in order to the regulatunge and governinge of the affayres of the Companie now after the adjudication, and present the same to the Companie on Satterdaie next.
- 23/04/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr Adams, Mr Trenchard, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bradley, Mr Maniston, Mr Bland, Mr Dr Fryer
- 23/04/53 2 Ordered that Mr DeLavalle shall have paid unto him by the receivor the some of five poundes for his paynes and attendance att Croyland about the order of refference touchinge navigation, and Mr Henley is desired to retorne him the thanks of the Companie
- 23/04/53 3 Mr Bradley and Mr Jessop desire to examyn Mr Duns bills and pay the sum to the Companie and report. Upon readinge of a letter from Mr Hamond with the paper enclosed touchinge the throwinge in of Swaffham dikes, it is ordered that a petition bee forthwith drawne and presented to the Lord Generall as followeth.

23/04/53	4	<p>To his Excellency the Lord Generall</p> <p>The humble petition of the Company of Adventurers for dreyning of the Great Levell of the Fennes</p> <p>Humbly shew</p> <p>That considering the Adventurers passed that the said Fennes are dreyned by the Lordes and other Comissioners authorized by Acte of Parliament for that purpose, and theire Lordshipps having also, upon some petitions of the townes of Swaffham and Botisham in the County of Cambridge, given spetiall direction in order to theire redress for the matters by them complayned of, as also to all other petitioners in like case as the Acte doth spetially directe, yet they, in a tumultuous manner, did on the 20th of this instant Aprill to the number of 150 assembled themselves together and with force not onely expelled your petitioners workemen from theire labour and imployment in dikinge and workeinge in the said Fennes and throwing in the dikes by them made but menaced and threatened them and all others that should after worke in that place or dike in those Fennes. The evill affects that may ensue upon such rioters and unruly meetinges and assembly may justly bee feared unles tymely prevented by your Lordshipps power.</p> <p>Which is the humble desire of your petitioners, speedily to take into your humble care and consideration, and to give such order and direction therein as in your wisdome and goodnes shall bee thought fitt, as well for suppressinge the present as preventinge future trouble and difficulties.</p> <p>And your petitioners shall praise and rest</p>
23/04/53	5	<p>[Page 77] Upon which petition the Lord Generall gave his warrant to Major Parker as followeth</p> <p>I heare some unruly persons have lately comitted great outrages in Cambridgesheyre about Swaffham and Botisham in throwing downe the workes makege by the Adventurers and menacinge those they imploy thereabout, wherefore I desire you to send one of my troops with a captain who may by all meanes perswade the people to quietnes by lettinge them know they must not riotously doe anythings, for that must not be suffered, but if there bee any wrongly done by the Adventurers upon complaint such course will bee taken as apperteynes to justice and right will be done. I rest.</p> <p>Your loving friend Oliver Cromwell</p> <p>Which was carryed downe by Mr Walker</p>
23/04/53	6	<p>Mr Marsham delivered to the Companie some propositions in writinge touchinge the regulatinge and governinge the affayres of the Companie now after adjudication which was read over to the Companie</p>
23/04/53 p.m.	1	<p>Mr Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir John Potts, Mr Adams, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Mainston, Mr Potts, Mr Bland, Mr Walker</p>
23/04/53 p.m.	2	<p>Sir Gilbert Gerard, St John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marsham, Mr Adams and Mr Carill, they, or any three of them, are hereby named a committee to take into consideration how to regulate and governe the affayres of the Companie now after adjudication, and are desired first to wayte on the Lord Chief</p>

Justice St John and receive the Lordships direction therein.

- 25/04/53 1 Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Bradley, Mr Dr Harper, Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Sir John Potts, Mr Browne
- 25/04/53 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond as followeth
- Sir - The Companie, havinge this daie byn enformed by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden that the inhabitants of the towne of Over, havinge mett to gather with the refferees, did refuse to agree that witnesses on the Companyes parte should be examynd, it is desired that the Companyes refferees may, accordinge to the order, here enclosed sent, make theire report *ex parte* and you are requested to attend them about it in drawinge up the same, wherein mention may be made of the value of the growndes both before the dreyninge and since the freeinge them of the charge of maynteyninge and repayinge theire banckes as formerly and all the other thinges as you shall conceive are necessary to bee invested. and notwithstanding the month is past within which they should have given security, yet the Companie are willinge that they shall have the land, givinge such securitye as other will give to hold the same, for one yeare accordinge to the orders of the Comissioners. In the meane tyme nevertheles it is expressly agreed that the surveyour should get on and proceede with the one ring dike and lott dreynes. As to the busines of Swaffham and Botisham, the Company desire your espetiall care may bee that the horse bee quartered in theis places and not with withdrawne from there untill that they have substantially made up and repayred the dikes and banckes throwne downe to the condition that they were formerly, at theire owne charge, and that you would likewise acquaint Mr Walker forthwith. If any agreement bee made with the towne of Over, the Companie desire they may heare of it.
- 25/04/53 3 **[Page 78]** Whereas there is a tonnell under the bancke at Thorney along the north banke being over against Whittlesey towne that is alltogether useles, it is thereof ordered that it bee referred to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to remove dispose and place the same in such other place as hee shall directe and Humfrey Rowland is to receive order from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden for the speedy doinge thereof accordingly.
- 25/04/53 4 Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee desired to take care to directe the layinge of a tonnell next or nere to Londoners Fenne underneath the high way upon the north side of Bedford River, and Edmund Welsh is to receive order from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden for the speedy doinge thereof accordingly.
- 25/04/53 p.m. 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Carill, Mr Maniston, Mr Draper, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Gorges, Sir John Potts, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Bradley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Potts
- 25/04/53 p.m. 2 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Marsham bee desired to attend my Lord Chief Justice St John att his howse in Enfield on Wednesdaie next with the propositions lately delivered in for regulatinge and governing the affayres of the Companie now after adjudication and receive his Lordships dirrection therein unless his Lordshipp comes to towne in the meane tyme.
- 25/04/53 p.m. 3 Mr Gorges made report to the Companie upon his survey of the north levell together with Major Blake, who did accompany him all along
- That the bancke nere the overtoe must bee heightened and from the overtoe to Elderwell is hollowed a foote or too foote.

- Dodson's bancke a very goode seale only it has wanted good locking so for want of removeinge and cleansing the same for weekes prejudicial there unto
- Horsecroft bancke of good earth yet a slender bancke but towards Peterbough very defective.
- From Northea gravell to Stanground sasse a very good bancke but some body has prejudiced the same by makinge a highway on it.
- North bancke of Moretons Leame from Peterburgh to Guyhurne wants a Fennes dike and therefore from Hills Dike to Northea gravell there is a nyne foote dike appointed to bee made
- from Northea gravell to Guyhurne a very defective bancke
- Highway from Northea Gravell to bee repayred from the Lord of Bedford's Fenn to Whittlesea
- Overtoe on these banckes not so strong as it ought to bee
- The Countryes bancke from Bevills hall to Guyhurne a very defective and silty bancke
- Tyd Goates breach taken and before the tydes come in out of danger
- Hilll sluice sea doores broken by the breach. The land dores must bee mended
- Dreyne from Hills Sluice to Clowes Crosse bancke somewhat low but for halfe way up to the Clowe perfectly good
- Clowes Crosse a good sluice but defective apages wherefore ordered to bee repayred by Mr Gorges and Major Blake
- From Dowsdale up to Croyland extremely low
- Between Dowsdale and Croyland the banckes cutt whereby the water is lett into the levell
- Brotherhowse bancke small yet good earth a sluice to lett in water
- That the tonnell between Peakirke and Croyland bee taken up by an empty boate cannot goe from John a Pond howse to Whittlesea Mere
- Vermudens Eau and the 100 foote dreyne untill the water bee drawne of cannot bee done

25/04/53 p.m. 4 Ordered that a letter bee written and forthwith sent to Mr Hamond by an expresse as followeth

Sir - The Companie have taken againe into consideration the ryott in Swaffham and the warrant of the generall to Major Parker for the suppressinge thereof. which the Companie conceive may bee made lesse of for the preservation not onely there and in the South **[Page 79]** Levell but likewise to apply that remedy to the preservation of all the North Levell as you shall thinke fitt. And thereof, the Company doe recomend it to your perticuler care to Major Blake and all the Companies officers in the North Levell

to signifie that horse are come downe to preserve the South Levell, and of occasion bee to have a watchfull eie that the Country doe not spoyle the Companyes coleseede. How to addesse your selfe to the Captain for effectinge of this and for thankinge of him and the soldyers, wee leave it wholly to yourselfe and Mr Walkers discretion. The Companie thinke it not amisse that the soldyers shew themselves att Chartis and such other places in the North Levell as you thinke fitt.

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| 28/04/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, St John Potts, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Marsham, Mr Carill |
| 28/04/53 | 2 | Ordered that Satterdaie next att nyne a clocke in the forenoone bee appointed a tyme for sale of defaulters landes |
| 28/04/53 | 3 | The Companie, beinge this daie informed that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight and Robert Henley Esqr had referred all differences between them, touchinge payment of taxes for the 5th lott, to the arbitrement and award of the right honorable Lord Comissioner Whitlocke and Major Generall Harrison that so the Companie may have the arreres of taxes paid by such of them as ought to pay the same, doe well approve of the said refference. |
| 29/04/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Bradley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Fountayne, Mr Vermuyden |
| 29/04/53 | 2 | Ordered that Gabrielle Ellyott shall attend Mr Leman and, by directions of Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour, take a true survey and admeasurement of Warboys Fenne and distinguish every mans Adventurer lande and the quantity belonginge to each lott and certifie whether hee findes a surplusage or any want of measure, in which survey care is to bee taken that devision dikes bee made to sever or devide the Adventurers landes from the Country, and notice is to bee given to all such Adventurers as clayme any interest in the said fen before any survey bee made thereof. And in the said admeasurement of the 30 or 40 foote dreyne, all highwayes and devision dikes are to bee excluded as noe part of the said measure. And the said survey is to certifie the Company the circumstances how hee finds the same. |
| 30/04/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Say, Mr Gorges, Mr Drewry, Mr Latch, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Crane, Mr Bradley |
| 30/04/53 | 2 | Upon some debate of the ryotts made in the levell by some evill disposed persons, and in order to prosecution of the offenders according to law, the Companie are thought fitt to referre the same to the consideration of Mr Henley who is desired to enforme himselfe the most effectuall way for prosecution of the offenders upon the said ryotts that justice may bee done therein. |
| 30/04/53 | 3 | [Page 80] Ordered by consent of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley that Mr Henley shall convey and cause to bee conveyed the 5th lott to Mr William Crane and Mr Jessop and to theire heirs and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to prepare the conveyance and that Mr Henley prepare a conveyance of the 2500 acres which hee is to have from the Company and, upon the execution of the said conveyance to Mr Crane and Mr Jessop, the other conveyance bee made and executed of the 2500 acres from the Companie to Mr Henley and, upon the conveyances executed, Mr Henley is to have from the Companie £3750 the residue and in full of the £10000 which hee is to have from the Company for the 5th lott. But out of the said £3750, the receivor is to deducte all the taxes imposed and in arrere upon the said 5th lott att the tyme of the adjudication. And if the Lord Comissioner Whitlocke and Major Generall Harrison, to whome the matter of taxes betweene Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henely is |

referred, or any other, in case they shall not agree, shall resolve that Sir Cornelius shall pay or beare all or any parte of the taxes deducted of the said £3750 that the same shall bee paid by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to Mr Henley before the 4000 acres in the 5th lott bee conveyed by Mr Crane and Mr Jessop, it beinge intended that the said 5th lott remayne in their hands upon that tract and then to bee lyable to the satisfaction of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden his 4000 acres accordinge to the Articles of Agreement betweene him and the Company, and touchinge the taxes imposed on the said 4000 acres before adjudication which were not payable at the adjudication or before Mr Henley doth assent that the said refferees doe not declare that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden ought to paie the same, then hee will pay the same.

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| 30/04/53 | 3 | Whereas Thomas Shepheard hath made default in payinge in 7d an acre on the first payment (of the tax of 1/2 crowne an acre), payable and due the 25th February last past for or in respecte of his share or proportion of 79 acres in the 3rd lott, amountinge to the sum of £02.09.04 1/2d, now for nyne acres part of the said 70 acres were this daie exposed to sale and George Dalton, now being present, offered 30s an acre, that is to say £13.10.00, for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 9 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 9 acres unto the said George Dalton his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money and every part thereof bee within a weeke next paid unto the receivor of the Companie, and the surplusage being £11.07.00 1/2 within the same tyme is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee, the said George Dalton, shall have an assurance of the said 9 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires. |
| 30/04/53 | 4 | Ordered that Tuesday next att nyne o clocke in the forenoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters landes |
| 02/05/53 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr William Crane, Mr Mainstone, Mr John Maniston, Mr Jessop |
| 02/05/53 | 2 | Ordered that a letter bee written forthwith to Mr Hamond with a copie of Mr Lifes letter to Mr Henley there enclosed as followeth.

Sir - The Companie have comanded mee to send you here enclosed the copie of a letter from Mr Life of Downham to Mr Henley, whereby you may understand how unruly the people of Wereham, Wretton and Stoake have lately byn in throwinge in some of the Adventurers works and beateinge the workemen. The Companie desire you will therefore take some speedy course for suppressinge them by drawinge of some of the horse into those parts for the preventinge further inconveniences as you shall thinke fitt. |
| 03/05/53 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr William Crane, Mr Jeremy Maniston, Mr John Mainston, Mr Jessop |
| 03/05/53 | 2 | [Page 81] Ordered that Tuesdaie next in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in their respective taxes. |
| 04/05/53 | 1 | Sir John Potts, Mr Henley, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr William Crane, Mr Walker, Mr Holworthy |

04/05/53	2	The Companie takinge into consideration the respects given unto them by Mr Hobart by his attendance att Elie about the refferences, doe hereby order that Mr Jessop, together with the clarke of the Company, doe forthwith wayte upon him and in the Companies name retorne him thanks for his civillitye towards them
04/05/53	3	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to pay unto Mr Arundell the sum of forty shillinges over and above the forty shillinges hee has received for his paines and expences in ridinge to and from about the service of the Company touchinge the adjudication, which sum hee does accept of in full of all demandes from the Companie
05/05/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Jessop, Mr Gale
05/05/53	2	The Companie in all such cases wherein they have made use of the respecte, civillity and attendance of any person of quallitye, eyther upon theire refferences or other spetiall service, doe thinke fitt and hereby order that what thanks and gratuitye they shall please to agree upon to present to any such person, shall not bee perticularly entred in the booke for entryes of orders but bee put unto John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie for the purpose aforesaid by Mr Jessop the receivor and, by him, placed to the generall account of the Companie.
10/05/53	1	Mr Edward Russell, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Draper, Mr Latch, Mr Cooke, Major Blake, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Browne, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Sir Gilbert Gerrard, Mr Vermuyden, Mr William Crane, Mr William Weston, Mr Jessop, Mr Hollworthy, Mr Sherriffe Underwood, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Doctor Fryer, Colonell Robert Castell
10/05/53	2	Ordered that the clarke of Romney Marsh shall have by the receivor of the Company the sum of three poundes paid unto him for handscribinge of some head of Lawes of Romey Marsh.
10/05/53	3	The Companie, takinge into consideration the respecte and civillity shoven unto them by Mr Gorges in assistinge Major Alexander Blake in takinge a view of the north levell and survey of the workes, doe order that the receivor of the Company shall paie unto him the sum of twelve poundes for his expences and charges for one month.
10/05/53	4	Ordered that the said Mr Gorges shall have the sum of ten poundes paid unto him by Mr Jessop receivor of the Company, which hee formerly disbursed for the service of the Company before the passinge of the Acte unto George Claphorne Esqr.
10/05/53	5	[Page 82] Ordered that Mr Walker shall have the sum of five and twenty poundes paid unto him by the receivor of the Company for his good service and respecte shewen unto them in taking two severall journeys into the levell upon the service of the Company
10/05/53	6	The Company being enformed that one Mr Evans, a surveyor under Mr Moore, is lately fallen sicke and thereby disabled to attend the service of the Company, perticularly that employment comitted to his care, and likewise, taking into theire consideration the effectuall preservation of theire workes under the care of theire respective officers, doe hereby order that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour shall in all such cases bee hereby authorized and impowered to imploy all such person or persons as hee shall thinke fitt necessary for the setting out diking and taking up the workes on the south side of Bedford River, and a letter is to bee written to Mr Moore accordingly

- 10/05/53 7 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to draw up instructions for the surveyours in their respective levells, which are to bee sent downe to Mr Hamond touching the devision dikes and certifyinge the length thereof as they are taken up from tyme to tyme after layinge, where they begin and where that ende.
- 10/05/53 8 A copie of the bill in chancery of Mr Crompton against the Company now produced touching the sale of the 5th lott being taken into consideration, that Mr Browne the solicitor doe attend Mr Fountayne and Mr Adams and desire them to persue the same and appointe some tyme to meete the Companie when they are best at leizure to converse with them about some answer to bee made to the same and thereupon the defendents are to have notice. And Mr Vermuyden, Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Jessop are hereby named a committee and desired to prepare some draft of an answer to bee made to the said bill in chancery of Thomas Crompton Esquire.
- 10/05/53 8 Upon reading of the paper of arreres, it is ordered that 1798 acres and a 1/2 in the first lott bee referred to the consideration of Mr Fountayne and Mr Thurloe who are desired to consider whether or noe by the order of the Companie the said landes are to bee exempt for payment of taxes that were layd before and payable after adjudication.
- 10/05/53 9 Whereas the honorable Edward Russell Esqr hath made default in payinge in the tax of 1/2 crowne an acre due and payable the 25th February, 25th March and 25th of Aprill last past for, or in respecte of, his share or proportion of 12 acres 1/2 in the 3rd lott, amountinge to the sum of £01.11.03, now forasmuch the said 12 acres 1/2 were this daie exposed to sale and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden now being present offered 40s an acre for the said 12 acres 1/2, that is to say five and twenty poundes for the purchase thereof, and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 12 acres and a 1/2 unto the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and his heires to have and to hold the said 12 acres and a 1/2 unto him, the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money and every part thereof bee, within foreteen dayes, paid unto the receivor of the Companie. The surplusage part thereof (if any bee) is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall have an assurance of the said 12 acres and a halfe from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires
- 10/05/53 10 Memorand that I doe nominate and appointe William Scott gent to bee the purchasor of the said 12 acres and 1/2 in the 3rd lott witnessed my hand.
- 10/05/53 11 Whereas Mr John Trenchard hath made default in payinge in the two last payments of the tax of 1/2 crowne an acre due and payable the 25th February, 25th March and 25th of Aprill instant for his share or proportion of Adventurers landes in the 2nd lott, amountinge to the sum of £93.16.10, now forasmuch as 50 acres of his said share or proportion were this daie exposed to sale and Mr Jessop, now being present, offered 40s an acre for the said 50 acres, that is to say £100 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due [Page 83] for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 50 acres unto the said Mr Jessop and his heires to

have and to hold the said 50 acres unto him the said William Jessop, his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money, and every part thereof, bee within 14 dayes paid unto the receivor of the Companie. The surplusage part thereof (if any bee) is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee the said William Jessop shall have an assurance of the said 50 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires

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| 10/05/53 | 12 | Whereas William Legge Esqr hath made default in payinge in part of the tax of 1/2 crowne an acre, payable and due the 25th February, 25th March and 25th of Aprill last for his share or proportion of 1000 acres in the 17th lott, amountinge to the sum of £103.19.11, now forasmuch as 100 acres part thereof was this daie exposed to sale and Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, now being present, offered £230 for the said 100 acres and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Cornelius Vermuyden and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto him the said Cornelius Vermuyden, his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money and every part thereof bee within 14 dayes paid unto the receivor of the Companie. The surplusage part thereof (if any bee) is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee the said Cornleius Vermuyden shall have an assurance of the said 100 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires. |
| 10/05/53 | 13 | Whereas John Miller hath made made default in payinge in the tax of 1/2 crowne an acre, payable and due the 25th February, 25th March and 25th of Aprill last for his share or proportion of 1500 acres in the 4th lott, amountinge to the sum [], now forasmuch as 100 acres part of the said 1500 acres thereof was this daie exposed to sale and Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, now being present, offered £230 for the said 100 acres and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Cornelius Vermuyden and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto him the said Cornelius Vermuyden, his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money and every part thereof bee within 14 dayes paid unto the receivor of the Companie. The surplusage part thereof (if any bee) is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale to bee void. And it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee the said Cornleius Vermuyden shall have an assurance of the said 100 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires. |
| 10/05/53 | 14 | Whereas Robert Staine and John Knott or one of them hath made default in payinge in fower poundes, thirteen shillings and nyne pence or 7d an acre due on the 25th of Aprill, for or in respecte of their share or proportion of 150 acres in the 12th lott, amountinge to the sum of £04.13.09, now forasmuch as 10 acres part of the said 150 acres were this daie exposed to sale and George Dalton, now being present, offered £10 for the purchase of their land and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growinge due for the same, in consideration whereof and for as much as it being their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by |

vertue of and according to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 10 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 10 acres unto him the said George Dalton, his heires and assigned, provided that the said purchase money and every part thereof bee within 14 dayes paid unto the receivor of the Companie. The surplusage part thereof is to be restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said George Dalton shall have an assurance of the said 10 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to this and their heires.

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| 10/05/53 | 15 | Mr Alderman Allen, Mr Trenchard, Mr Jessop, Mr Henley and Mr Fountayne or any two of them are hereby named a committee and are desired to examyn and state the account of the expeditor and are requested to meete and thereupon to make their report to the Companie. |
| 10/05/53 | 16 | Whereas it was enformed by Major Blake that Little Peterburgh Fenne, being about to bee driven and cleered to the intent of the Companie might have the possession thereof, Humfrey Vane Esqr, William Hack, Robert Rowell, Thomas Dickeson and Richard Albold gent could name severall persons that opposed the cleering thereof and were present when the rayles of the bancke and forelandes were broke down, whereupon it is ordered [Page 84] that the clarke in the name of the Companie doe write a letter to Mr Oxmore and the rest of the gent that made such opposition to know whether they clayme any right to the Companies banckes and forelandes that by severall lawes have byn vested in them, signifyinge also that there is a great deale lesser proportion of land taken out of that fenne then there ought to bee. |
| 10/05/53 | 17 | Ordered that the Company resolved to meete <i>De Die in Diem</i> at 3 a clocke in the afternoone untill they have settled the government. |
| 11/05/53 | 1 | Mr Gorges, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Alderman Allen, Mr Henley, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Draper, Mr Bradley |
| 11/05/53 | 2 | Upon perusal of the severall bills of Mr Dunne, the cooke to the Lordes and other Comissioners in their late journey to Elie touchinge the adjudication, it is ordered that the same bee allowed of by Mr Bradley, the steward then appointed, and that thereupon Mr Jessop shall paie the same takinge his receipt and placinge it to account. |
| 12/05/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Bridges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Crane, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Draper, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Bradley, Mr Browne |
| 12/05/53 | 2 | To the intent the devision dikes on the south side of Bedford River may bee so perfected as to serve the Companie from double payments and enable then to make a perfect estymate of the charge, it is this day ordered that the surveyours appointed for the 4 devisions on the south side doe forthwith, in their respective devisions, cause an exacte survey and admeasurement to be made of the quantity of all the out ring lynes betwixt comoners and Adventurers and of all the devision lynes betwixt lott and lott, and doe likewise cause the same to bee plotted and layd out in writinge, expressinge each of the said lynes upon the plott by perticuler names letters and markes to the ende they may be distinguished each from the other, and so as their boundes and places wherein the border may bee ascertayned of which plotts are to bee retorned to the Companie, another to such officer as is or shall bee authorized to lett out the dikes, a third to the comptroller and a 4th to remayne with themselves. And it is further ordered that the officers entrusted to lett out the said dike shall from |

tyme to tyme enter their contracts for the said dike methodically and successively, one worke mans proportion after another through the contynuanse of the whole lyne without interruptinge of one lyne with another in their said contracts, distinguishinge each lyne in the contracte booke by the name letter or marke mentioned in the plott and expressing on the head of the contracte the whole quantity that each lyne shall ammount unto the admeasurement, directed as aforesaid.

13/05/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Trafford, Mr Spaldinge, Colonell Thomas Castell, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bland, Mr Doctor Fryer, Mr Jessop, Mr Gorges, Mr Cooke

13/05/53 3 Upon report made this daie by the Committee appointed to consider of the expensitors accounts, it is ordered that the said report be entred as followeth

In pursuance of the Companys order bearinge date the 10th day of this instant May, wee have examyned the accounts of Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood expensitor from the audit in January 1652 (from which tyme his former order of discharge relates) and finde the state thereof to bee as followeth.

[Page 85] There rested on the ballance of his accoumt, audited January 1651, as received more than paid - £2337.12.10 1/2

From where discounting his allowance for retorning of moneyes in 1650 and 1651 on the Companys order 26th March 1650 - £260.0.0

The allowance of his subexpensitors on an order of the 10th March 1651 - £250.0.0

His owne sallary from 9th March 1649 to 9th March 1651 at £200 per annum, discountinge £367 put to accoumt as paid to his subexpensitors on an order of 3rd March 1649 - £233.0.0

For so much charged on him by Mr Henley but not admitted by him to bee received - £20.0.8

Total = £763.0.0

So rests due to the Company in the said ballance of Jan 1651 - £1574.13.10

Paid unto him since the audite 1651 to 9th of Aprill 1653 to which tyme the charge on the accoumt audited Aprill 1552 extends, viz -

On bills of exchange indented - £28079.17.07

On taxes paid in the Country - £1106.18.07

On severall other payments distinct from bills and taxes - £362.03.09

Totall of his charge 9th Aprill 1653 amounts unto - £31123.13.10

Whereof

The payments on the accoumt audited in Aprill 1653 amount to

On Mr Dymonds accoumt - £5364.2.7 1/2

Mr Westrop - £541.6.8 1/2

Captain Weststons - £313.10.5 Total = £6218.19.8

The payments on the account audited in April 1652 amount to

On Mr Dymaonds account - £5501.6.2

On Mr Westrops account = £18898.7.10 Total £24399.14.0

Total £30618.13.8

So out of the whole remayning charge beinge - £31123.13.10

Discounting the said payments beinge - £30618.13.8

There rests as money received more than paid - £505.0.2

Out of which is to be abated his owne salary after 20 shillings per cent according to the Company order of 10th March 1651, the state whereof we find as followeth

By the said order of 10th March 1651 it is declared that for the yeare ensueing Mr Expenditor should be allowed after 20 shillings for every £100 that should be layed out and expended on the workes to begin from the then last audit, beinge in January 1651, and the Company to be at noe further charge about the expence of money

The £600 for two yeares salary discounted out of the ballance as aforesaid extends to 9th March 1651

So it is submitted to the Companies determination whether the said new allowance of 20 per cent shall be answered to Mr Expenditor from the audit of 1651 besides his allowance of £300 per annum which extends to the 9th March following

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| 13/05/53 | 4 | Which report of the expenditors accounts, beinge read over to the Company, and appointed to be entered as aforesaid, the Companie present are satisfied that the monyes charged therein as paid were accordingly truly and really paid and therefore it is this daie ordered and declared by the Companie present that the said Lieurenant Colonell Francis Underwood the expenditor be, and is hereby discharged of and from the sum of thirty one thousand, one hundred poundes, thirteen shillings and ten pence, mentioned in the foote of the said accounts, excepting there out the sum of five hundred and five poundes and two pence beinge the money received and restinge in his handes more then hee hath paid out which said £505.0.2. there is to be allowed for his owne salary after the rate of 20 per cent the sum of £311.3.6 |
| 13/05/53 | 5 | Upon the motion of Lieutenantt Francis Underwood expenditor, the Company doe intend tomorrow afternoone to take into consideration whether or no hee shall have 200 acres or £300 in money accordinge to their order formerly made. |
| 13/05/53 | 6 | [Page 86] Whereas it beinge informed that the way to the 300 acres belonginge to the 16th lott in Mildenhall Burnt Den is very inconvenient and that a more convenient way and passage may be made at the west end of three hundred acres belonginge to the 19th lott, it is therefore ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour doe take care that a high waie be forthwith lockspitted out and made from the said 300 acres in the 16th lott up Mildenhall Burnt Fen to the Comon Way leadinge to Mildenhall from the west of the said 300 acres in the 19th lott. |
| 14/05/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Gorges, Mr Bridges, Mr William Crane, Mr Walker |
| 14/05/53 | 2 | Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden be desired to sett down what dreynes are to be maintayned and kept at the publike charge, where they begin and where they |

end

- 14/05/53 3 Ordered that the Companie doe hereby appoint Tuesdaie next in the afternoone a generall meetinge and perticulerly to take care and consider of all the orders of reference made at Elie by the Lords and other Commissioners and what hath byn done there upon to the intent that they may bee in a reading against the seaventh daie after this terme
- 14/05/53 4 Whereas Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr on Tuesday 10 May 1653 did purchase 12 1/2 acres lately belonginge to Edward Russell Esqr in the 3rd lott but noe conveyance is yet passed from the Companie, and whereas the said Cornelius Vermuyden did then nominate and appoint William Scott gent to bee the purchasor of the said 12 1/2 acres, who have since then appointed Mr John Houson of Peterburgh in the County of Northampton purchasor thereof, and hee hath agreed with the said William Scott and hath paid in the money due upon the said contract, in consideration thereof the said Mr Scot doth hereby relinquish all his right in the interest, clayme and demand whatsoever therein and to the said 12 1/2 acres, and they desire the right honorable William Earle of Bedford Edward Russell, Robert Henley and Robert Castell Esquires trustees appointed for the whole Companie of Adventurers to execute and effect of the said 12 1/2 acres unto the said John Houson, his heires and assigned in such manner as they are to doe to all other the Adventurers and Participants witnessed my hand 14 May 1653
- 16/05/53 1 Mr John Russell, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Carill, Mr Walker, Mr Henley, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Alleyn, Mr Lake, Mr Browne
- 16/05/53 2 Whereas the Company of Adventurers, being this daie enformed by Mr Astwood, a tenant of the Lady Cutts, that there is a dreyne which att all tymes heretofore hath byn mainteyned by the inhabitants of Swavey, part whereof lyes between the new bancke made by the Company and Over Lode, it is therefore by the Companie of Adventurers thought fitt that that part of the said dreyne, lyinge betweene the bancke made by the Adventurers as a foreland and Over Loade, bee mainteyned and scowred out by the said inhabitants of Swavey as formerly it hath byn, as they will answer the damage and prejudice may fall out and ensue by the neglecte thereof
- Memorand - This to be sent and directed to the Dike reeves of Swavey
- 16/05/53 2 It beinge informed that the north bancke of the Bedford River in many places thereof is very much out of repayre and the Company seriously consider the prejudice may ensue thereupon, it is ordered that Colonell Robert Castell bee desired to take into his care the speedy and effectual repayre thereof, and to that purpose hee is hereby authorized to imploy Edmund Welsh, Robert Pinchbeck or any other hee shall thinke fitt and who shall have power to lett out the same and make contracts in writing, which are to bee left att Mr Carills howse nere the said bancke, who, together with Mr Henleyes desire to bee assistinge therein, and such materials as are necessary and can bee of spared are forthwith to bee drawne from Downham Eau or other places for the present use and service of the Companie as aforesaid.
- 17/05/53 1 **[Page 87]** Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Bridges, Mr Latch, Mr William Crane, Mr Hamond, Mr Woodward, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Cooke, Mr Maniston, Mr Holworthy, Mr John Russell, Earle of Bedford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Vermuyden, Dr Fryer, Colonell W. Underwood, Mr Carill, Mr William Weston, Mr Browne
- 17/05/53 2 Whereas Mr Hamond acquainted the Companie that hee took up £500 att Cambridge of Mr Browne treasurer for the Armye in regard of the present service of the

Companie which was by bill charged on Mr Leman and therefore moved that the paid bill might bee accepted of by Mr Jessop although it was without his instructions, which beinge taken into consideration, it was thought fitt and ordered that the said Mr Jessop should accept thereof and pay the some accordingly

17/05/53 3 The Earle of Bedford, the Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Say, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Vermuyden and Mr Bridges are hereby made a committee and they, or any five of them, are desired to meete *de die in diem* in the forenoone at 9 o clocke and in the afternoone at three o clocke, more perticularly to take into consideration the severall referrences appointed by orders of the Lords and other Comissioners, against their next meetinge in the Middle Temple Hall, that certificates bee drawne up and prepared. And this Committee are hereby desired to manage all other affayres of the Company to their best advantage except laying of taxes, not excluding nevethes any other member of the Companie from beinge present.

17/05/53 4 Upon the petition of diverse inhabitants of Elie, Littleport, Downham and other places, owners of severall growndes called The Crofts, it is ordered that, if the petitioners desire to hold the said landes for this yeare till our Lady day next, they may have the same so as they give security unto the right honorable Earle of Bedford and the other trustees named in the Acte of Parliament for dreyning the Great Levell of the Fennes, which beinge done, the Adventurers doe consent and agree that if the petitioners can procure the Lords and tennents of the towne of Littleport that there shall bee and sett out to the said Adventurers land of the like quantitie in lieu of the lands mentioned in the said petition, the Adventurers will joyne with the petitioners to the Lordes and other Comissioners for a confirmation thereof

18/05/53 1 Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Bridges, Mr Hamond, Mr Trafford, Mr William Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Henley, Mr Browne

18/05/53 2 Whereas it is conceived by the Companie present that there are severall papers in the truncke of writings of the Companie that is sealed up, very usefull touching the refferences, whereupon it is ordered that the said truncke bee opened and the writings perused by the Companie.

Whereupon theis writinges, papers and bookes, hereafter followinge, were thought fitt to bee taken out and kept by the clarke for the present use of the Companie viz -

- 1 A petition from the towne of Over and a letter from Mr Roper
- 2 Mr St Johns draft of order to bee made use of for the government
- 3 Two paper bookes
- 4 Printed papers giving notice of the sale of land
- 5 A printed map which is to bee lyned with canvas whereupon if was sealed up again

18/05/53 p.m 1 **[Page 88]** Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Bridges, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Bland, Mr Stanley, Mr Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Browne, Mr Henley, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Marsham

18/05/53 p.m 2 Mr West on the behalfe of the towne of Over, accordinge to former agreement, mett the Company this day in order to a composure betweene them and the said towne

But the said Mr West incisted upon damages done to the inhabitants of the said towne by the Companie viz -

- By a dreyne or cutt and a bancke about 55 acres lett at 2s 8d an acre which at 20 yeares purchase - £1466.13.04
- For the after growth worth a noble an acre - £366.13.04
- By spoyling navigation, damage £4 per acre as upon oath at 20 years purchase - £500.06.08

Total - £3133.06.08

- Corne fields or arrable and meadow necessarily endangered by risk of water in somer floodes, destroyinge the whole crop and much prejudicing the winter crop so that eyther the land damnified must bee repayred or else a liberty to cut the bancke for security, beinge a whole furlonge worth some yeare. Then the cuttinge of the benefitt of water and fillinge dikes to all mens growndes. The cutting of the white water floodes, the grownd of the sicknes of the land - £1500.00.00

Theis not to be valued nor easily repayred, may bee £10000 damage in a short tyme

18/05/53 p.m 3 Upon which demandes the Companie thought fitt to retorne this answer as followeth

Answer of the Company of Adventurers to the demandes of the inhabitants of the towne of Over

- To the 1st demand of the towne of Over of 55 acres cutt, they conceive it under 20 acres, and of the banke, foreland and the indike made bee accoumpted, it will be about 40 or 50 acres but they referre to the line measure thereof, and for the value they are enformed that it was att before the tyme of the 6th yeare of the late King no more but 10s or, at the most, a marke an acre with great casualty and losse some yeares but they referre themselves to the examynation thereof
- They have better passage to goe to the river then ever they had before and a bridge made a purpose.
- And whereas their navigation for the coales, which is the most materiall thinge, was to goe 60 myles or there abouts to Lyn now they goe 21 myles nearer, whereby they may have now the fruite of their coales cheaper by a third which is a great convenience. And that they have a sasse sett upon their loade to keepe water up and the Country was annoyed thereby and therefore the Country burnt the same before passinge of the Acte.
- Whosoever hath a load in the levell, the townesmen make it convenient for themselves since the dreyninge as Ramsey, Fassett and other townes. And this navigation for Over Loade cannot bee, in this case, otherwise it will endanger the whole South Levell, and if it might a sasse there can cost but £50.
- For all which reasons there is noe custom of equity att all to demand anythinge for navigation.
- That the Companie have not destroyed their banckes but their banckes are about 7 or 8 myles in length which they were to mainteyne, beinge frequently broken, to their great charge and damage, and now the charge and hazard of the bancke is totally taken of at the Companeyes charge, and their land made winter grownd accordinge to the Acte.
- And for the wash, the Company have offered them that they are concerned to

take it as part of the quantity the Company are to have by way of exchange and therefore nothinge damnified but much benefitted.

- What they say about corne fieldes and other thinges, it is without any colour or grownd and but a supposed and imagined danger
- **[Page 89]** And they further say that there is but about a 10 or 11th part taken out of theire landes and that in equity and good justice the Companie have merited to have a 4th of 5th part.

19/05/53	1	Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley, Sir William Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Trafford, Mr Hamond, Mr Walker, Mr Lane, Mr Holman, Mr Jessop, Mr Browne
19/05/53	2	Ordered that Mr Andrewes have paid unto him by Mr Jessop receivor of the Company the sum of five poundes for his paines and respects shewen unto the Company.
19/05/53	3	Whereas by order of the 10th March 1651, Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood, the expendor, was to have from the Company of Adventurers after adjudication of the whole levell eyther 200 acres or £300 in mony at theire election and it beinge now put to the question whether or noe hee shall have 200 acres of £300 in money, it was resolved that hee shall have the sum of three hundred poundes allowed him upon his account by the receivor of the Company which is ordered accordingly.
20/05/53	1	Sir Thomas Thyme, Mr Stanley, Mr Henley, Colonell Castell, Mr Walker, Mr Latch, Mr Marsham, Mr Smith, Mr Hamond, Mr Lane, Mr Bradley
20/05/53	2	Upon the petition of Henry Fynnimoore read over to the Companie, it is ordered that they should be againe referred to Mr Hamond as formerly.
20/05/53	3	Whereas the Adventurers are authorized if they please to dike out theire severall landes in the south side of Bedford River and, being taken up by the surveyour, shall have allowance from the Company accordinge to order made in March last, and whereas it is informed that diverse Adventurers in pursuance of the order have diked out theire respective landes and have requested the surveyour to take up the same that they might have allowance accordingly, but they neglectinge and delayinge to take up and admeasure the said worke, it is ordered that, if hereafter any surveyour or officer of the Companie shall neglecte or delay by the space of ten daies after hee bee desired to, by any one of the Adventurers, to take up and certifie any worke so done to the intent the workemen may bee paid, that for such his neglecte or default hee shall bee discharged of and from the service of the Company and some other forthwith is to bee employed in his stead.
21/05/53	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Colonell Castell, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr Lane, Mr Trafford
21/05/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop the receivor bee desired to pay the sum of fower poundes five shllinges, that beinge money expended for entertynement of the Comissioner Sir Charles Harboard and others.
21/05/53	3	[Page 90] Ordered that Edmund Welsh doe take care that Sam his cutt bee speedily scowred out to its full depth as it ought to bee and that in the meane tyme the water on that dreyne is to bee kept as low as may untill the devision dikes be perfected
23/05/53	1	Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Draper, Mr William Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Bradley, Mr Cooke, Mr Browne

23/05/53	2	Whereas by order of the Lordes and other Comissioners in the Acte of Parliament, bearing date at Elie the 24th of March 1652, upon the petition of John Berry of St Ives, it was referred to the Earle of Bedford and his Participants who where desired to examyn the truth thereof and thereupon to give satisfaction for the land in the petition mentioned to bee cutt away and prejudiced. And whereas it appeared upon the certificate of William Palmer, one of the surveyours, that 2 acres 1r 29p are cutt away and converted for the makeinge of the new great river lying in the south side of Bedford River and for the bancke, foreland and nyne foote dreyne thereunto belonginge, the Company therefore, takeinge the premisses into consideration, have thought fitt and doe hereby order that the said Mr Perry shall have after the rate of twenty nobles an acre for the land, so cutt away and prejudiced, amounting to sixteene poundes and ten pence, and Mr Jessop is accordingly to pay the same taking his receipt and placing it to account.
23/05/53	3	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Mr John Perry of St Ives the sum of three poundes fower shillings and two pence for his charges and his respectes shewn the Companie.
24/05/53	1	Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Crane, Mr Culpeper, Mr B.Arthur, Colonell Castell, Mr Browne
24/05/53	2	Ordered that what money Mr Browne, receivor for the Army, shall paie in att Elie, upon the receipt of Mr Arthur Tench, shall bee repaid here upon bills of exchange charged on Mr Jessop, the said bills to be directed to Mr Brownes sonne att Guildhall London
24/05/53	3	Ordered that Friday next in the forenoone bee appointed a tyme for sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in their respective taxes
24/05/53	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Clamp of Lyn letting him know that Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood hath given up on being expendor that therefore hee would forthwith send up to the Company an abstracte of what mony hee hath received, what mony hee hath paid and what resteth in his handes from the tyme of the last audit.
24/05/53	5	Upon readinge a letter from Gabrielle Elyott, one of the surveyours, it appeared that Henry Fynnimore hath finished the diking in of the land in Hobbs Peece, part of Wisbich High Fenne, additionall land layd out for Mr Henley and Mr Alerman Titchborne for the bancke and cut grownd in their shares. The length of the dike beinge 242 polle, at 10d a pole, amounts to ten poundes one shillinge eight pence, it is ordered that the said sum of £10.01.08 bee by the receivor of the Companie paid unto the said Henry Finnimore, takinge his receipt and placing it to account and any other Adventurer in such and the like case shall and may have the same order if they please
25/05/53	1	[Page 91] Mr Hamond, Mr Henley, Mr William Weston, Colonell Castell, Mr Bland, Mr Cooke, Mr Bradley, Mr Page
25/05/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to pay unto Mr Thomas Sanders the sum of eight poundes, eighteene shillings, and the sum of seaventeene poundes for the exemplifying the last Acte of Adjudication of the levell on the south side of Bedford River, takinge a receipt and placing it to account

25/05/53	3	Upon order of the 7th February 1652 read over touchinge Colonell Castells accounts, it is ordered, upon allowance of the same by Mr Jessop, that the sum of eight poundes seaventeene shillings and ten pence bee by him paid unto the said Colonell Castell, taking his receipt and placing it to account
25/05/53	4	Whereas it is enformed that the surveyour hath appointed a highway to bee made from Colonell Castell and Mr Henleys land to the towne of Benwicke which is allready lockspitted out all along the severalls belonging to the said towne. whereby the inhabitants may receive much prejudice, and for as much as they alledge they can propose a more convenient way then is allready lockspitted of lesser charge to the Adventurers and more ease to the towne, it is therefore ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour bee desired to call to his assistants the inhabitants of the said towne to heare what they can say touchinge the same and, upon view and examynation thereof (if hee shall send cause), hee shall and may sett out a new way instead for the former.
26/05/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Lane, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Carill, Mr Smith, Mr Trafford
26/05/53	2	Ordered that Major Alexander Blake bee desired to take spetiall care that Sir Cornelius Vermuydens directions given to Edmund Welsh may be pursued for the doing of severall workes in the north levell comitted to his care, in perticuler that the north bancke of Moretons Leame may bee speedily repayred and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is desired to write to Major Blake touchinge the same.
26/05/53	3	Upon readinge of a paper, this daie presented to the Company by Mr Hake of Peterburgh, touchinge damages pretended done him by dreyninge, it is ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto the said Mr Hake the sum of fifteen poundes in full satisfaction of all damages whatsoever pretended to bee done unto him by the dreyninge in or nere Peterbrough or elsewhere.
26/05/53	4	Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Moore to desire an account from him what hee hath done upon Mr Thurloes letter and papers sent him touching 200 acres in or nere Londoners Fen claymed by the Lord Generall Cromwell.
26/05/53	5	Mr Hamond and Colonell Smith are desired to attend Mr Jeffrey Palmer with the draft of the government and to conferre with him touching the same, and afterwards to wayte on my Lord Chief Justice St John and receivie his Lordships direction there upon.
26/05/53	6	Whereas Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood hath given over beinge expeditor to the Companie and they, takinge into consideration the present necessitye of choosinge another person that may to bee expeditor of the Companyes treasury in the Country, Mr George Dalton was named and propounded as a fitt person for the employment, and hee is to have after the rate of 20s in the £100 for all moneyes hee shall disburse for the Companies service, which hee doth accept of and doth agree to goe downe on Monday or Tuesday next and reside at Elie, provided that first hee give [Page 92] good security to the Company for the true performance and due execution of this office and trust reposed in him, and hee is to observe such instruments as from tyme to tyme hee shall receive from the Company.
27/05/53	1	Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Colonell Smith, Mr Hamond, Mr Say, Mr Henley, Mr Trafford
27/05/53	2	Whereas the inhabitants of the towne of Ramsey, in pursuance of an order made the 17 th of February 1652, in consideration of certaine land cutt and prejudiced and, upon

sealing a conveyance of the said landes to the Company, they were to have the sum of one hundred thirty and five poundes, eight shillings and two pence paid unto them, and whereas Mr Andrewes on the behalfe of the said towne produced a deed under the handes and seales of the inhabitants, whereupon it is ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to pay the said sum of a hundred thyrty five poundes, eight shillinge and two pence on the 11th of June next into the handes of Mr Andrewes and agent of the said towne.

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| 27/05/53 | 3 | Ordered that Edmund Welsh bee desired to take espetiall care that the lower dam nere Baldwyn Glossomes howse bee forthwith cutt up to the intent the spring tydes may flow into the wash att Waldersea for the better preservation of the outfall att Wisbich, and this order is with the first oportunity to bee enclosed, sent in a letter to Edmund Welsh. |
| 27/05/53 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie the sum of fower poundes five shillings to Mr Henley and Mr Trafford upon a bill now produced and read over, beinge money expended upon the service of the Company |
| 27/05/53 | 5 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie the sum of fiteene poundes and ten shillings unto Mr Thomas Sanders for the exemplifyinge of the first Acte of Adjudication of the levell on the north side of Bedford River, takinge a receipt for the same and placing it to accoumpt. |
| 27/05/53 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Jessop doe deliver unto George Dalton the sum of fiteene hundred poundes, which is toe paie the same to the treasurers at Guildhall London, and take theire bill of exchange for receiving the like sum of £1500 att Cambridge of Mr Bendish generall receivour for the assessments in Cambridgeshire |
| 28/05/53 | 1 | Mr Gorges, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond

Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Mingay as followeth

Sir - The Company of Adventurers, takinge notice of a letter you lately writt to Mr Fountayne about Methwold, as also your offer and propositions in order to a composure of differences between them and that towne, have thought fitt to signifie unto you how much they doe approve of the same, and therefore they make it theire request unto you that, when your occasions shall give leave, at the next meeting with the towne to incist upon the same proportions, and if they bee not accepted to certifie the same with your opinion and reason, and now havinge this oportunity, they cannot lett passe an acknowledgement of your very great civillitye and respecte shewen unto them by beinge present not onely att this but at severall other refferences for which as they rest obliged unto you, so they comanded mee to retorne theire thanks |
| 30/05/53 | 1 | [Page 93] Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henry Henne, Mr William Smith, Mr Bridges, Mr Maniston, Mr Walker, Mr Hamond, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Henry Henne |
| 30/05/53 | 2 | Whereas by order of the 26th June 1652, amongst other thinges, it was agreed that the Companie should earth a passage at Tynnes and the towne of Sutton were to gravell it at theire owne charge, in pursuance whereof it is now ordered that the same bee referred to Mr Hamond and Mr Drewry, or eyther of them, to accommodate the inhabitants by makeinge the said passage forthwith or otherwise to give twenty markes to the inhabitants of the said towne to doe the same at the townes election, and they are to gravell it and keepe it at theire owne charge according to the said |

order.

- 30/05/53 3 Upon reading a copie of the report upon the order of refference touchinge Wicham and other comons, it is ordered that the sum of one hundred and thirty poundes bee forthwith paid into the handes of Mr Hamond to bee by him paid unto William Gillinges and Robert Andrewes on the behalfe of the said town of Wicham and other comoners for the making and mainteyning a sufficient cartbridge over the new Ouze nere Wicham gravell, which sum of £130 is to be disbursed as followeth, that is to say thirty poundes more when the pieces are sett up and seaven poundes more when the bridge is finished and gravelled
- 06/03/53 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Cooke, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Jessop
- 06/03/53 2 Ordered that Mr George Dalton who is appointed expeditor bee at liberty to take up such moneyes in the Country as there shall bee occasion to use for the Companies service, and for the monyes so taken up to draw bills of exchange on Mr Jessop, the Companies receivor, who is authorized on sight of such bills to accept the same and thereof to make payment out of the Companies treasure according to the tenor of the said bills respectively, which bills with the parties acquittances who receives the same, shall bee a sufficient warrant and discharge to Mr Jessop, and it is further ordered that the said expeditor may paie and satisfie all such warrants and bills as shall bee allowed by the comptroller for the tyme beinge or by Mr Hamond in the absence of such comptroller, till the Companie shalle give other order, such allowance beinge testified under his hande, and Mr Tench the clarke comptroller attesting the entrie of such bills and warrants with him, which bills and warrants, together with the parties receipt, shall bee a sufficient warrant and discharge of the said Mr Dalton.
- 06/03/53 3 Ordered that Mr Thomas Wright shall have the same allowance as Mr Gabrielle Elyott hath allowed him as a surveyour duringe the contynuanee of his imployment.
- 06/03/53 4 Ordered that Mr Walker bee added to the Committee, formerly named by order of the 17th May last, touchinge the governance and manageinge of the affayres of the Companie
- 06/03/53 5 It beinge enformed by Mr Jessop that severall bills viz - 7, 8 and 9, amountinge to £209 are lately charged upon him by Mr Crane sub-expeditor, the expeditor himselfe haveinge lately named his imployment as being expeditor, are for as much as Mr Sheriffe Underwood does (now present) engage to secure the Company from any future damage shall accrew unto them for or by reason of the said bills, it is ordered that the said sum of £209 bee paid according as the said bills are accepted and grow due.
- 08/06/53 1 **[Page 94]** Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford, Mr Staunton, Colonell Sydney
- 08/06/53 2 Whereas the Companie were this daie enformed that Henry Oliver, who had the care and oversight of the sluice att Clowes Crosse, is lately dead, and whereas John Trafford Esqr hath recomended Mr Thomas Hatton as a fitt person to overlooke and take over thereof, assurring and engaginge himselfe to save the Companie harmes from any damage shall hereafter ensue to them by his meanes of neglecte, it is ordered that the said Thomas Hatton doe take care and oversight of the said sluice at Clowes Crosse, and from tyme to tyme bee watchfull and dilligent to have the same repayed as often as neede shall require for which hee is to have the same allowance as Henry Oliver had.

- 08/06/53 3 Upon reading a letter from Mr Hamond touchinge the insurrection at Swafham, Mr William Smith and Mr Trafford were desired to attend Mr Thurloe and the Clarke of the Companie to wayte upon them to provide orders to the officers in cheife to suppress the ryott which are as followeth viz -
- Whereas information is given that severall unruly people about Swafham, Soham and other parts of the south side of the Great Levell of the Fennes have assembled together in a riotous and tumultuous manner and throwne downe the dikes and sluices belonging to the Adventurers landes, and disturbe them in their possession, contrary to the law in that case provided, and to the endangeringe the peace of the Comon Wealth, you are therefore to give order to the Comander in Chiefe of any of the troops of horse in your regiment with quarter most convenien, to repaire into the parts aforesaid and to use his endeavor to disperse the above said or other the like or unlawfull assemblies and to aydinge and assistinge to the justices of peace or other civill magistrates in bringing the offenders to punishment and for preventinge the like dissorder for the future
- Lambert
- 08/06/53 4 To Colonell Rich
Lieutenant Ward
- You are on sight hereof to march with your troope and put in execution the orders above named. In case your troop be not sufficient, you are to call to your assistance Captain Babingtons troop from Huntingdon. If those two troops bee not enough, you are to call Captain Liffes troops from Cambridge to the same purpose, both which troopes till the captains of both or eyther of them come downe. You are to comande and give mee a speedy account - 9th June 1653
- If you send orders to both or eyther of those troopes, you will doe well to send a copie of myne to you, as above specified. I am informed the ryotours are about Swafham in Cambridgesheyre
- 13/06/53 1 Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr North, Mr William Crane, Mr Henne, Mr R. Henley Jnr, Colonell William Smith, Mr Bradley
- 13/06/53 2 Upon the petition of Hamond Le Strange Esqr, it is ordered that a copie thereof bee sent to the surveyour who is desired to survey the land mentioned in the petition and forthwith to certifie what damage and prejudice redownds to the petitioners
- 13/06/53 3 **[Page 95]** Ordered that Lieutenant Colonell Underwood of Whittlesey bee desired to deliver up to Mr George Dalton, the present expenditor, an account of all disbursements by him or his late subexpenditor issued since Mr Jessops passing of his last accounts, wherein Mr Tench the Clarke comptroller is to give his assistance, and what the money is remayninge in the Lieutenant Colonells handes upon the said account (if any) shall bee paid over to the said Mr Dalton to bee by him expended for the Companies service, and to the ende hee may better know which monyes have byn received by the said Lieutenant Colonell on his account since the said last auditt, Mr Jessop is desired to send to Mr Dalton an abstracte of all the monyes so paid to the said Lieutenant Colonell, or on his account, by bills of exchange, by taxes paid in the Country or otherwise. And to that ende the Companie may bee enformed of the present state of their workes. It is further ordered that the surveyours, overseers and all other the Companies officers in the Country whome this may concerne, doe forthwith joine together for making up as perfecte a report as they are able of the state of their workes, as well on the North as the South Levell so as the Company

may bee advertized what workes allready directed are yet unperfected, how more they are to bee finished and what other workes are intended as necessary further to bee done, and Mr Dalton is to take care that the order be communicated to such as they same shall respectively concerne, and to the intent the same may in the severall parts thereof bee put in actione and speedy way of execution, and to give the Company from tyme to tyme an account of his proceedinges therein.

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| 13/06/53 | 4 | Whereas the affayres of the Companie are very much hindrered and delayed for want of frequent meetings, it is therefore ordered and the Company doe resolve to meete every day at three a clocke in the afternoone and so de die in diem untill further order |
| 14/06/53 | 1 | Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr William Crane, Mr Walker, Mr Say, Mr Carill, Mr Jessop, Colonell W Smith, Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bradley |
| 14/06/53 | 2 | Upon readinge of the latter from Mr Hamond, it is ordered that an answer bee sent unto him as followeth |

Sir - I communicated your letter yesterday to the Companie which, beinge taken seriously into consideration, they thought fitt to retorne this answer that they cannot but much wonder that £10000, lately raised, should be so sodainly spent and disposed of and not any change visible hath byn done. They are contynually followed with complaints from most Adventurers that their landes in the south side are not yet diked of from the Country, which by order should have byn done by the 20 Aprill last at the furthest, and that there should bee of much worke lett out about old Bedford River and bancke and the north bancke of Moretons Leame as should come to £6000 is a thinge much beyond their expectation, the whole Companie beinge very much dissatisfyed herein and therefore desire you will procure the contracts from Edmund Welsh to bee forthwith sent up to the Company and that you would likewise certifie yourselfe what workes that are allready contracted for are most necessary to be done att present to the intent they may not bee involved into a labyrinth of expences. And whereas you conceive, if Sir Cornelius Vermuyden were upon the place some perticulers might be altered and much money saved to the Company, to this they are very much inclynable and shall forthwith desire him with some others of the Company to goe downe upon the place to that purpose. And to the intent their vast expence may bee lessened as to the charge of the undersurveyours and officers, they have ordered all to be discharged but three under Mr Moore that is to say Ellyott, Palmer and Wright, they havinge a better opinion of Wright than of Pighills by reason he was employed in the late Earle of Bedfords tyme. And as touchinge the values of the Fenne townes, beinge the last clause of your letter, they have written to Colonell Castell a copie thereof, not doubtinge but to receive a very good account from him touchinge the same. I have lastly, here enclosed, sent you a copie of a letter from the parson of Hockwold to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden complayninge as you may perceive that hee is prejuduced 10 acres in Parsons Fen in Hockwold. I have sent up their order upon it, which, because the gent seemed to bee very civill to the Company, they desire your care to have his land surveyed and certified for his satisfaction. And here is one thinge omitted which is very materiall, that is, when any land is to bee set out on the south side, notice should bee given to the townes adjacent and in case they would not bee present then the surveyour should take with him too witnesses, which hath not byn heither to it seemes pursued, as in the case of Mr Leman who said there are 500 acres more then should bee taken out of Warboys Fen which happened because [Page 96] Mr Moore was misinformed of the boundes, and as to the rates set att Elie, the Companie will by no meanes encrease the same. They desire to know whether you shall have any tyme to dispence withall to meete the Comissoners the 9th daie after the terme.

14/06/53	3	The Companie, takinge into consideration the great charges they are at for undersurveyours and other officers, it is ordered that all undersurveyours that receive any sallary from the Companie bee forthwith discharged except Gabriell Elyott, William Palmer and Thomas Wright who are to observe Mr Moores directions from tyme to tyme
14/06/53	4	Upon reading of a letter to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden from the parson of Hockwold complayninge that 10 acres of his land in Parsons Fen in Feltwell was spoyled by the Adventurers and that they had prevented him from access to the river, whereupon it is ordered that a copie of the said letter bee sent to Mr Hamond who is desired forthwith to nominate a surveyour that may admeasure the said land and what prejudices done to him and certifie the same to the intent speedy satisfaction bee given unto him accordingly.
15/06/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr W.Crane, Mr Say, Mr Trafford, Mr R.Henley Jnr, Colonell W.Smith, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Marsham
15/06/53	2	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to this effecte that whereas it beinge enformed that the townesmen of Over are very unwillinge to depart from theire 171 acres of land as it is sett out in St Ives Law, but are willinge the same quantity of 171 acres should bee sett out to the Adventurers in Blunts Moore, so the request of the Companie is that hee would use his utmost endeavor to procure the refererees to meete and agree up a certificate to that purpose and the Companie will not oppose the same.
15/06/53	3	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired against the next meetinge to state the account betweene the Company and Mr Henley touching the remaynder of mony due for the 5th lott, over and above what is in question betweene Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and him.
15/06/53	4	Mr Henley, Mr Marsham, Mr Crane, Colonell Smith, Mr Walker and Mr Trafford are named a Committee and they, or any three of them, are desired, with the assistance of Mr Jessop, to meete tomorrow and take into consideration what workes are necessary to bee provided in, and what mony is forthwith to bee raised, and to make theire report on Friday next to the Companie, as also to consider how the £10000 lately raised was layd out and expended.
16/06/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr John Russell, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Walker, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Jessop, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Say, Mr Dr Fryer
16/06/53	2	Upon receipt of a letter from Mr Thurloe touchinge an offer of Dutch prisoners to bee employed in the workes, it was desired that Mr Henley, Colonell Smith, Colonell Castell, Mr Crane and Dr Fryer would attend the committee tomorrow morninge to treat with them about the same.
16/06/53	3	Resolved upon the question That the Companie doe accept of 500 prisoners to be sent done and employed in the workes.
16/06/53	4	[Page 97] Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Say, Colonell Smith, Mr Marsham, Mr Hamond, Mr Carill are hereby named a committee, and they or any two of them are desired to take into consideration the draft of the government and draw the same up into a method against this daie sennight, and then present the same to the Companie.

16/06/53	5	Touchinge the difference between Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley, it is desired that Mr Fountayne would bee present at the meetinge and in his absence, Colonell Smith is desired to bee there, whether the hearinge bee at Whitehall or elsewhere.
16/06/53	6	Ordered that a letter be forthwith written to Major Blake to provide 500 planks at Lyn or Whittlesey or elsewhere for repayringe the north bancke of Moretons Leame and other workes comitted to his care, which the expeditor is to pay for upon a note under his hand of the sum contracted for
17/06/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Say, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Henley, Mr Holworthy, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr W.Crane, Mr Dr Fryer
17/06/53	2	Mr Henley made report to the Companie in pursuance of the order of 15th of June instant of the workes necessary to bee done, and that it was the sence of the committee it was fitt for the Companie to lay a Scott or tax of 2s 6d an acres for the present necessary service of the Companie
17/06/53	3	Ordered that Mr Walter St John (if his health and occasions will give leave) bee desired to goe downe into the Great Levell of the Fennes and take care of the completinge those severall workes hee hath so happily begun.
17/06/53	4	Ordered that a tax of 2s 6d an acre bee set upon the whole 95000 acres, one moytie thereof payable the 11th day of July next and the other moytie 11th of August next.
17/06/53	5	Whereas the Company have lately entertayned 500 Dutch prisoners to be employed in the Great Levell of the Fennes who are sodainly to goe downe into the said levell, it is therefore ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired forthwith to take care to provide spades and shovells to worke with all and hutts for them to lodge in and such accomodations for them in such sort as Mr Hamond shall thinke fitt and necessary
20/06/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Latch, Mr W.Crane, Mr Cooke, Colonell Robert Castell, Dr Fryer, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Gorges, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Browne
20/06/53	2	Ordered that Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Mr Gorges and Colonell Smith or any two of them are desired to consider of all the refferences and against the next meetinge of the Commisioners to prepare answers accordingly
20/06/53	3	[Page 98] Earle of Bedford, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Crane, Mr Say, Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Walker, Colonell Robert Castell, Colonell W.Smith, Sir Edward Patherich, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Bradley
20/06/53	4	Ordered that Sir Charles Harboard, Sir Beauchamp St John, Mr Henry Dereham, Mr Humberston Marsham, Mr Clapthorne and Captain Fisher bee desired to meete the Companie about three a clocke in the afternoone on Saterdag next.
20/06/53	5	Mr Gorges, Colonell Wiliam Smith Castell and Mr Latch, or any one of them, are desired to present the petition now read over to his Excellency the Lord Generall Cromwell.
20/06/53	6	Upon readinge a petition delivered in this daie to the Company by Sir Thomas Dacres, the Companies answer was that they take noe more land from him then is sett down

in the Law of St Ives, and whereas hee informed the Company that hee had noe improvement since the dreyninge, that hee lett his land for one and twenty poundes a yeare before the dreyninge and that hee lett it for noe more now and that it was not improved, whereupon some of the Companie now present offered him sixtie poundes a yeare for his said land, but hee refused it.

22/06/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr William Crane, Colonell William Smith, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr W.Weston, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden

22/06/53 2 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Captain Stanley Stevenson, who is to goe along with the Dutch prisoners to Elie, the sum of five poundes, three poundes, whereof hee is forthwith to lay out for twenty paire of shoes for the said prisoners, and fortie shillings thereof is to bee towards his expences, and a letter is forthwith to bee written to the Lieutenant now attending the said prisoners on their march

22/06/53 3 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond and sent by an expresse as followeth viz -

Sir - yesterdaie the Company, taking into consideration your letter by Mr Vermuyden, doe thinke fitt to retorne answer that they conceive it a thing absolutely necessary that you would procure what witnesses you can to prove the land hurtfully surrounded in perticuler townes as now most stand out and make opposition against them, the damage likewise they have received this yeare by beinge kept out of possession, that you likewise send up the names of such persons in every towne as have made most opposition, more perticulerly that wittnesses may bee produced to prove the misdemeanor of Knight and of Manning about the sluice, to the ende the Company may not put up such apparent wronges. In order to all with the Company, they propose to send you by the next summons for witnesses against the next meeting of the Comissioners. They have at present, here enclosed, sent you three warrants signed and sealed by the Comissioners which are to bee directed to the severall sheriffes to give possession. Touching the want of money, the Companye will retorne answer tomorrow.. In the meane tyme, they purpose to conferre with Mr Jessop touchinge the same. They desire you to hasten up to towne in such convenient tyme as they may discourse with you against the next meetinge of the Comissioners, in order whereunto they desire you bring up with you all such copies of certificates and all such petitions as are in your custodie. To the choice of Pighills or Wright, the Companie are enformed that Wright is more given to the cupp then the other and therefore doe thinke fitt to contynue him and discharge Wright who is nevertheles to receive for the tyme hee hath served accordinge to the order here enclosed.

22/06/53 4 The Company have made choice of fower hundred and fortie Dutch prisoners who are now upon their march towards Elie and will bee there or at Cambridge on Satterdaie or Sunday next. The Comissary Generalls warrant, directed to Collonell Humfryes or the cheife officer of the dragoones at Peterburgh or Crowland, is here enclosed sent you, which is to bee forthwith sent away to him, likewise another order for reimbursinge the Company which they lay out out **[Page 99]** for shooes or sockes out of the Dutch prisoners pay. The copie also of an order to the bayliffes of Yarmouth or such other officers in whose custody the Dutch prisoners are there, to receive sixtie more to make up the former number of five hundred. I thinke the Company will desire Mr Walker or some other to goe thither for that purpose. There are five and twenty paires of shoes cominge downe with these prisoners. The Company conceive it the best way to quarter them at Swafham, Waterbeach and other parts most averse to the Company which they nevethes referre to your consideration. The warrant is full enough, authorizinge you to that purpose. The Companie doe attend the Generall that this day therefore they desire you would not bee discouraged in any thinge for

they hope to send you good newes.

- 22/06/53 5 Ordered that Mr Jessop be ordered to paie unto Captain Allsop, Marshall Generall, the sum of five poundes for his paynes and care in and his abilitie shewne to the Company about the obteyninge the Dutch prisoners
- 22/06/53 6 Ordered that Mr Walker and Mr William Mainston bee desired perticularly to take care and oversight of the Dutch prisoners now sent downe to the intent that may be best disposed of from tyme to tyme for the service of the Company, and that there may be a provision of dyett and all other thinges necessary as they shall see cause for. With theire respectes to the Companie, they shall have each of them after the rate of fortie shillings to bee paid unto them by the expeditor weekly
- 22/06/53 7 Ordered that Mr Thomas Wright, one of the undersurveyours, bee from henceforth disposed and Pighills is to bee contynued in his absence.
- 22/06/53 8 Whereas the Companie, by theire order of 28 May 1651, did consent that Mr Henley, in lieu of his 5th lott designed to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, should have 3000 acres, the remaynder of the 15000 acres and the 400 acres, which for default of payment of taxes were sold to Mr Thomas Alleyn and that hee should cleere out 600 acres more, part of Sir Charles Harboard's 800 acres in the 16th lott, and in case the said 3000 acres or any part thereof were taken away then the Company would make good 3000 acres more or other land to bee sett out in lieu thereof and whereas it was this day enformed that 317 acres is wantinge and falleth short in measure of 937 acres in Woodwalton Comon, beinge appointed to his proportion, and Mr Henley alledged that hee hath not received any profitt of the same these too yeares, and thereupon it was moved that hee might have other land out of five hindred aces in Holme Fenne in lieu thereof and where, as it appeared, upon readinge the order of 18 February 1651, that this land mentioned in Holme Fenne was not to bee sold but preserved and kept for the publique use and service of the Companie unles in the presence of twenty reall Adventurers, it was thought fitt that when there was a meetinge of so many reall Adventurers, the clarke should put the Companie in mynde of the said motion to the intent they may take the same into consideration.
- 23/06/53 1 Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Samuell, Colonell William Smith, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Hollworthy, Mr Jessop
- 23/06/53 2 Upon readinge of a letter from Mr Hamond, it is ordered that an answer thereunto bee sent as followeth.

The Companie retorne answer to your last, that is to the providing tents and quarters for the Dutch prisoners. They conceive you have by this tyme a full answer by theire former letter, for by the warrant the soldyers are authorized to take charge of them which cannot otherwise bee done but by quartering them in howses, barnes or churches. The Companie, takinge into consideration the daylie expences they are att and the many bills charged on the receivor, have ordered you may perceive by the inclosed that at present all contractes are to bee stopped unless contracts for devision dikes. In the meane tyme, the Companie desire you to use you best endeavors to prevent the charginge the receivor with any great bills untill [Page 100] about the middle of next month by which tyme the Companie have resolved to meet at Elie. I have, here enclosed, sent you a letter to Lieutenantt Ward to acknowledge the respectes of the Companie, as also a letter from Colonell Rich to him, which they desire you to deliver as you see cause they could not yet prevayle with him to enlarge himself further.

- 23/06/53 3 The Company beinge very sensible of the vast expences they have now lately byn brought into upon severall contracts made for workes in the Country, doe hereby thinke fitt and order that all contracts and the severall workes thereupon are to cease from any further proceeding, unles contracts for devision dikes and the workes thereupon, untill further order of the Company, and all the Companies officers in the Country, whome these shall respectively concerne, are hereby ordered to take notice accordingly
- 23/06/53 4 Upon reading a letter from Mr Moore touching busines of Lieutenant Generall Fleetewood, it is ordered that an answer bee sent to this effect that the Companie, God willing, to goe downe to Elie 13th July next to satisfie all just complaints
- 23/06/53 5 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Collonell William Smith and Mr Oxenbridge all such money as they have layd and expended in order to the entertayninge of your Dutch prisoners
- 23/06/53 6 The Company, findinge it necessary to raise tax upon the 95000 acres for upholdinge and mainteyning of the worke of dreyninge, are for that purpose to lay and sett a scott or tax of 2s 6d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres in the Acte of Parliament mentioned, which tax so sett and imposed is to bee paid to the officers of the treasury by the hande of the receivor without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex at too payments viz - twelve pence an acre or one moytie thereof on or before the 11th day of July next and twelve pence an acre or the moytie on of before the 11th August next and in default of the payment of the said 12d an acres moytie thereof, on or before the 16th July next, then every Adventurer so making default shall, over and above the proportion payable for his Adventurer landes, satisfie and pay after the rate of 12d by the pound for every daie hee shall make faylure of payment after the said 16th of July as a penaltie in respecte of his default, and in case any Adventurers shall make default of payment of the last moytie and residue on or before the 16th daie of August next cominge then the Adventurers land satisfie and pay after the rate of 12d by the pounce for every daie hee shall make fayler of payment after the said 16th of August as a penalty in respecte of such his default. And in case any Adventurer shall make default of paying eyther of the said proportions of the said tax in the space of 3 months after their respective tymes limited as aforesaid, then the landes of such Adventurer makinge default shall bee forthwith requested into such handes as [] shall nominate and appoint, and shall so remayne untill out of the profitts thereof the proportion, so unpaid, and the penalties for forfeites, as aforesaid, shall bee fully satisfyed and answered to the Companie
- 24/06/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr John Russell, Mr St John, Mr Henley, Colonell W.Smith, Mr W.Crane
- 24/06/53 2 Ordered that Mondaie next in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of defaulters landes and to settle and establish the government and to consider of the affayres of the Companie and what money is in the treasury and the Adventurers in towne are desired to meete accordingly.
- 24/06/53 3 **[Page 101]** Mr Gorges, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Bridges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Lane, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Jessop, Mr Crane, Mr Walker, Mr Latch, Mr Marsham, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Draper, Mr Browne
- 24/06/53 3 Whereas it was enformed that Mr Mainston, in devidinge his land, hath taken seaventy eight acres out of the 13th lott in Upwood Fenne when as hee was to have but 55 acres accordinge to his deede, it is therefore ordered that hee shall have noe more but 55 acres according to his deede and hee is to leave out the residue being 23

acres, and, in case hee wants any of his proportion in the second lott, Mr Ellyott, one of the surveyours, is there to supply the same. And the said Gabrielle Ellyott is likewise to see that a drove way may bee lockspitted out and made in the most convenientest place from the towne of Ramsey to Whittlesey way for accomodation of the Adventurers growndes in Upwood Fenne.

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| 27/06/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Walker, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Spilman, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Draper, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Marsham, Mr Lane, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Browne, Mr Bland, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Henley Jnr |
| 27/06/53 | 1 | Mr Gorges and Mr Crane are desired to attend Mr Fountayne and, in the name of the Company, make it theire request unto him to bee att the meetinge of the Comissioners in the Temple Hall, the 7th day after this terme |
| 27/06/53 | 2 | Ordered that Thursdaie next in the afternoone peremptorily bee appointed a tyme for sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in the last halfe crowne tax and the 1st moytie of the last 15d tax and payable the 1st of June instant. |
| 27/06/53 | 3 | Memorand that every member of the Company bee desired to name such fitt persons as may bee competent judges betweene the Country and them and give in the same tomorrow |
| 27/06/53 | 4 | Memorand that the Earle of Bedford and some others of the Company bee desired to meete att Westminster tomorrow after the raising of the court about takinge the oath of Comissioners of Sewers before the Lordes Comissioners of the Great Seale, and consider whether they are to have a <i>dediminus potestatem</i> for such Adventurers as have 200 acres a peece to be sworne as Comissioners of Sewers |
| 28/06/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Crane, Mr Say, Mr Trafford, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr G.North, Mr Walker, Mr B.Arthur, Mr John Arthur, Colonell William Smith, Aldermand Allyn |
| 28/06/53 | 2 | Ordered that the clarke doe forthwith attend Mr Latch and desire him to make a draft of a conveyance of every Adventurers land from the fower trustees of the Companie, and hee is to have a fee given him for the same. |
| 29/06/53 | 1 | [Page 102] Earle of Bedford, Mr Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Culpeper, Mr B.Arthur, Mr H.Henne, Mr Holman, Mr Cooke, Mr John Russell, Mr Trafford, Mr Monroe, Mr Browne |
| 29/06/53 | 2 | Ordered that the clarke take care to speake with the Comissioners whose names are to the Law of Sewers made at St Ives to desire them to meete the Companie on Friday next in the forenoone. |
| 30/06/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr William Weston, Mr Walker, Mr Lane, Mr Bladwyn Arthur, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Neale, Mr Culpeper, Captain Richard Blackwall, Mr Henley Jnr |
| 30/06/53 | 3 | Upon the petition of diverse inhabitants of Peterburgh, Stanground, Fassett, it is ordered that it bee referred to the consideration of Mr Gorges and Major Alexander Blake to take care from tyme to tyme to cause the sluice at Stanground to bee opened to lett water into the river of Neane and to consider of appointing stoppes to bee made in the said river in order to the preservation of navigation |

- 30/06/53 p.m 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Bridges, Mr William Crane, Mr Stanley, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Culpeper, Mr Dr Fryer
- 30/06/53 p.m 2 Whereas there is an urgent occasion for the present raising of money for the service of the Company, it is thought fitt and ordered that all such person or persons as shall, upon or before the 8th daie of July next, advance all or any part of the 2s tax lately imposed and to bee confirmed by the Comissioner of Sewers, shall have and take to his and their owne use and uses the benefitt and advantage of all the *nov penes* imposed or to bee imposed upon the faylor payinge in the said tax
- 30/06/53 p.m 3 Whereas most of the Adventurers are going out of towne upon their severall occasions whereby the busines of the Companie may very much suffer for want of frequent meetings, it is therefore ordered that five members of the Company whose names are to hereunder written shall have ten shillings a daie for every day they contynue their howers upon the Companies busines, and in case any of the said members shall have occasion to bee absent they are desired to provide persons of the Companie to supply their place from tyme to tyme, and in case hee and his deputy both fayle hee is to forfeit twenty shillings. And this order is to bee of force untill the said Company shall thinke fitt to adjourne to Elie against the 20th of July next and the certificate of the clarke shall bee a sufficient warrant to the receivor for payment of the said ten shillings a day.
- Robert Henley, John Latch, Thomas Bland, Cornelius Vermuyden, W.Smith
- 30/06/53 p.m 4 **[Page 103]** Ordered that proclamations now printed shall bee forthwith sent downe by an expresse to Mr Jonas Moore and Mr Barnes and they are to take care to have the same published throughout all the market townes in the levell by affixing the same on posts or otherwise as they shall thinke fitt
- 30/06/53 p.m 5 Ordered that the Company doe resolve to meete at a session, and as Comissioners of Sewers in pursuance of the Acte of Parliament in that behalfe made the 18th of July next at the White Hart in Elie
- 30/06/53 p.m 6 Ordered that Mr Stevenson who was desired to conducte the Dutch prisoners to Elie and is now retourned shall have paid him by Mr Jessop the receivor for his paines the sum of fortie shillings over and above the five pounds hee formerly received
- 01/07/53 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr John Russell, Mr Crane, Mr Browne, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Adams, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland
- 01/07/53 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Kingscroft of Kingscroft in Gloucestersheyre in the way to Cyrencester for all mappes, papers and writinges that concerne the Companie of Adventurers
- 01/07/53 3 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Mr Thomas Browne sollicitor to the Companie the sum of twenty poundes for which hee is to give an account to the said Mr Jessop
- 01/07/53 p.m 1 Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond, Mr Carill, Mr Crane, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Marsham, Mr Browne, Mr Gorges, Mr Culpeper, Colonell Smith, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Trafford, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Bland, Mr Munroe
- 01/07/53 p.m 2 Ordered that it bee recomended to the spetiall care of Mr Hamond to provide and appointe that the ditches, banckes, workes and dreynes lately made and executed by the Companie of Adventurers in order to the dreyning and devidinge of the levell on

the south side of Bedford River, and now lately throwne in and prejudiced by some evill disposed and dissaffected persons to the progresse of the said workes, bee with all convenient speede made up againe, erected, repayred and amended and the possession thereof regained and made good again. And to the intent the Companie may have satisfaction for the injury done unto them herein, it is further ordered that an estimate bee made thereof and presented to the Comissioners appointed to meete att Elie 20th July instant, an account whereof is perticularly to be kept by itselfe

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| 01/07/53 p.m | 3 | Upon the petition of Mr Haesdoncke, a Dutchman, touchinge the first lott, read over to the Companie, it is ordered that what orders have byn made therein, the petitioner may bee att liberty to take out copies thereof from the clarke of the Companie payinge for the same. |
| 01/07/53 p.m | 4 | Ordered that Mr Bland bee desired to draw up a petition to his Excellancy and the Councill of State to grant order to the Lordes from the Commisioners for imploring the Clarke of the Crowne to prepare a Commission of Sewers and a <i>dedimus protestatem</i> for the Company of Adventurers as have 200 acres a peece to take an oath. |
| 01/07/53 p.m | 5 | Order that every Commisioner havinge 200 acres shall have 4s a daie, every daie hee shall sitt att the Session of Sewers which is to bee paid unto him by the expendor. |
| 04/07/53 | 1 | [Page 104] Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Robert Henley Jn, Mr Crane, Mr Marsham, Mr Trenchard, Colonell Smith, Dr Fryer, Mr Bland |
| 04/07/53 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Jessop receiver of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Lieutenant Banckes, who conducted the Dutch prisoners downe to Elie, the sum of ten poundes as a gratuity, to bee paid as followeth, that is to say three poundes to the said Lieutenantt, forty shillings to bee by him distributed to the partie of horse, and five poundes to the partie of foote soldyers for their paines |
| 04/07/53 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Mr Robert Boleter, assigned of Sir Raph Hare, the moytie of what is due unto him, the sum of two hundred sixtie two poundes, thirteene shillings and fower pence and the other moytie to bee paid within three months now next ensuinge, Mr Jessop takinge his receipt and placing it to account. |
| 04/07/53 | 4 | Memorand that the sum of two hundred sixtie pounces, thirteene shillings and fower pence, this daie bee paid to Mr Robert Boleter for Sir Raph Hares use, is in parte payment for the landes cutt and for lande and banckes thereunto belonginge in Downham, Denver, Stowe and in Botisham and the cutts in Marshland. |
| 04/07/53 | 5 | Ordered upon the motion of Mr Henley that Mr Gabriell Ellyott, one of the surveyours, shall have liberty for two or three dayes to come up to towne to peruse certain accounts between him and one Mr Sanders |
| 04/07/53 | 6 | Ordered that Colonell Smith bee desired to draw up a petition to the Comissioners and with a schedule thereunto annexed of the damages susteyned by the Adventurers by the Country growinge in their workes |
| 05/07/53 | 1 | Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond, Mr Bland, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Spilman |
| 05/07/53 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Jenkinson, the sheriffe of Cambridgeshire, shall have a gratuitye of five poundes forthwith paid unto him by Mr Jessop, the receivor of the Companie, for |

his care in giving possession to the Adventurers of their proportion of land in or nere Waterbeach.

- 05/07/53 p.m 1 Mr Stanley, Mr Latch, Colonell Smith, Mr Day, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Walker, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Marsham, Mr John Arthur, Mr Hamond, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Samuelle, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Thurloe, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Sheriffe Underwood, Mr Trafford
- 05/07/53 p.m 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Samuall Smith to desire him to meete the Comissioners att Elie 20th July instant and to bee aydinge and assistinge to the Adventurers.
- 05/07/53 p.m 3 **[Page 105]** Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to paie unto Mr Crane and Mr Walker the sum of two poundes to reteyne Mr Sergeant Barnes and Mr Pefly of councell and to meete them at Elie
- 05/07/53 p.m 4 Ordered that Thursdaie next in the forenoone bee a tyme perticularly appointed to take into consideration what workes are done and to bee done that have formerly byn ordered and appointed, against which the severall orders made therein are to bee looked at by the clarke, and Mr Moore the surveyour is then desired to attend the Companie
- 06/07/53 1 Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Bland, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Robert Henley Jnr
- 06/07/53 2 Ordered that Mr Jessop receivor of the Companie bee desired to paie unto Mr Latch the sum of three poundes which hee is desired to give unto Mr Henry Farmer for this former service to the Companie
- 07/07/53 3 Sir Cornlelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henley, Mr B.Arhtur, Mr Bland, Mr Marsham, Mr Walker, Mr Thurloe, Mr Bradley, Mr W Weston, Mr Lane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Browne
- 07/07/53 4 Ordered that Mr Attorney Generall, Mr Lisle and Mr Keeble bee forthwith reteyned of councell against the meetinge of the Comissioners on Satterday next, and Mr Bland is desired to draw up instructions accordingly, and Mr Hamond and Sir Cornelius are to advice touching the same and to meete in the afternoone
- 07/07/53 5 Ordered that the south overtoe att Guyhurne bee forthwith taken up and the bancke made up substantially with the rest of the banckes and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden is to write to Mr Welsh about the same
- 07/07/53 6 Ordered that a letter bee written to Edmund Welsh that hee send up forthwith a copie of Sir Cornelius Vermuydens directions on Waldersea Bancke and how much is done already, together also with the direction of the north bancke of Bedford River and how much is done thereupon, and to goe on with all expedition with Feltwell Cutt.
- 07/07/53 7 Ordered that Bedford dreyne bee opened and the bancke thereby strengthened from Welshes Dan to Welnea, and the bancke from Wellney to Salters Lode to bee amended and repayred according to the direction given by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, and that the other part from Welshes Dam up to Erith bee amended, heightened and repayred in all low places as is needfull.
- 07/07/53 8 Ordered that Whittlesey dike bee opened accordinge to the direction given by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden

07/07/53	9	Ordered that a letter bee written to Lieutenantt Colonell Dymond to knowe what hee hath done in persuaunce of the direction formerly given for the dreyne from Honey to Well and Pophams Eau.
07/07/53	10	Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Moore the surveyour to agree with the towne of Wisbich for the sum of three score poundes for the setting downe of a sluice on Elme Leame in the most convenient place.
07/07/53	11	Ordered that Mr Thurloe, Mr Trenchard, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Henley and Mr Hamond or any two of them bee desired to meete as a committee tomorrow morning to take into consideration all the workes formerly ordered and appointed to bee done and to bring in the names of such persons as they shall conveye fitt to take the particuler care thereof.
07/07/53 p.m	1	[Page 106] Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Culpeper, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Bland, Colonell Castell
07/07/53 p.m	2	Ordered that Mr Hill bee forthwith retheyned of councell for the Companie against the meeting of the Comissioners on Satterdaie next
08/07/53	1	Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr Trafford, Mr Lane, Mr Bland, Mr Stanley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Marsham, Colonell W.Smith, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr
08/07/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired forthwith to paie unto Mr Bland, Mr Hamond and Mr Latch the sum of six poundes to retheyne Mr Attorney Generall, Mr Hill, Mr Lisle and Mr Keeble accordinge to former order
09/07/53	1	Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Browne, Mr Bradley, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bland, Mr Walker, Mr B.Arthur
09/07/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired from tyme to tyme to issue out money to the sollicitor upon account so as the sum exceede not thirty poundes
11/07/53	1	Mr Hamond, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Bland, Mr B.Arthur
11/07/53	2	Memorand that on the 28th of July instant at the Bell in Elie bee a tyme and place by consent appointed for the refferees to meete upon the references of the townes of Swaffham, Burwell, Botisham and Wicken
13/07/53	1	Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bland, Mr Browne, Colonell William Weston, Mr Bradley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Walker, Mr Marsham
13/07/53	2	[Page 107] Ordered that Mr Fountaine, Colonell William Smith, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch and Mr Bland are desired to meete at Elie on Satterdaie next and they, or any two of them, to take into consideration the busines before the Comissioners and attend theire meetinges from tyme to tyme and to draw up interrogations and doe all such other thinges as they in their judgements shall conceive necessary in order to the severall references, and they are to have for their paines then shillings per diem
14/07/53	1	Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Bland, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Dr Fryer, Mr B.Arthur

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| 14/07/53 | 2 | Ordered that there bee forthwith provided a sumpter horse and trunks for the carriage of all deedes, evidences and writings of the Companie, and the clarke is to take espetiall care to have them in a readines and to bee at Elie on Satterday next, and the expendor is to defray the charge thereof and place it to his account. |
| 14/07/53 | 3 | Ordered that the Companie of Adventurers doe adjourne to meete at the White Hart att Elie on Mondaie the 18th of July instant att two of the clocke in the afternoone |
| 18/07/53 | 1 | Att Elie

Earle of Bedford, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond, Mr Gorges, Mr Say, Mr John Arthur |
| 18/07/53 | 1 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Thurloe touchinge the Dutch prisoners as followeth viz -

The Companie since their cominge to Elie have byn enformed that the Comander in Chiefe had new orders sent him contrary to those which hee formerly received. Wee sent to him, whose name is Major Tyson, to know the certainty thereof, who told us that hee had received a letter lately from Colonell Humphrys that hee should take care onely of the servinge of the passes of this Isle, and not to quarter in any place out of the Isle, nor in any howse there, but in Inns and Ale howses. Now the passes of the Isle are not as formerly, there beinge accesse thereto from all places, and as to quartering in the Isle onely, the villages and places where the greatest opposition and disturbances have byn and where most of our workes lye are out of the Isle but nere to it and noe innes and very few ale howses there, so that if the former order bee lett loose from this latter direction, wee are so farr from expectinge any assistance to suppress disorders in those places where they are that it begins to bee taken notice of already by the Country, and they receive encouragment to proceede in their riotous proceedings. Wee therefore desire of you that you would bee pleased to gaine a confirmation and quickening of the former order. The next is the Dutch prisoners not onely refuse to worke but are encouraged by the Country people of Swaffham, Waterbeach, Cottenham and other places, who are opposite to this worke of dreyninge, to run away, endanger them in the corne and the officers, who indeed are very carefull to ride after them and finde them out and bring them backe when they take them, have no power to punish them, and for some effectiuall course to be had therein, they desire a power to bee comended to them. Sir you know the Adventurers have byn very willing to receive these Dutch prisoners to free the state from the charge but, indeede, they are of so great a burden and trouble to them, they beinge resolved not to worke nor will worke and say they were prisoners of warre, and ought not to bee enforced to labour, and in this they [Page 108] have also encouragement from the Country. Their must therefore also, this wee conceive, bee a power given to the Comander in Chiefe to punish them by puttinge them into the gaole, or otherwise, as shall bee thought fitt by the Lord Generall or Councell, otherwise the soldyers will doe nothing and so tells us, wee rest.

W.Bedford
Richard Gorges
Anthony Hamond
John Latch
John Arthur
John Hurst |
| 19/07/53 | 1 | At the White Hart Elie |

Earle of Beford, Mr Gorges, Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Major Alexander Blake, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr Pemberton, Mr John Russell, Mr B.Arthur, Mr John Arthur

- 19/07/53 2 Mr Pedley beinge come to towne, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch and Mr Say were desired to instructe him against the meeting of the Comissioners
- 19/07/53 3 Upon reading a letter from the Earle of Portland touching certain land hee alledged was taken away from him by the Companie, it is ordered that it bee referred to Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood to consider what land is taken from him, and likewise his demande for the same, to the intent his Lordshipp may receive satisfaction, according to the value the same was of in the 6th yeare of the reigne of the late King.
- 19/07/53 4 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Gorges and Mr Moore the surveyour to make the old River of Neane navigable, and to set stoppes thereupon as occasion serves and as they shall conceive necessary for the accomodation of the Adventurers and the Country
- 19/07/53 5 Ordered that from the dam over the 40 foote at Gold Dike ende, the said Gold Dike bee made sufficient to convey away the water of the were dike of the north bancke of Moretons Leame, and that the care hereof bee referred to Major Blake and Edmund Welsh to see it bee sufficient. If not, to have it made sufficient.
- 19/07/53 6 Whereas by a former order of 23rd June last, all contracts and the workes thereupon were to stop untill further order of the Companie, it is now ordered that the repayres of the north bancke of Moretons Leame bee with all expedition taken in hand and finished accordinge to contracte, and Major Blake is desired to take the care thereof, as also the fillings up of the rutts and mendinge of the low places on the south bancke of Moretons Leame. And it is likewise recommended to the care of Major Blake to take up the overtoe at Guyhurne and secure the materialls with the keeper of the sluces at Guyhurne.
- 19/07/53 7 Upon consideration of the insufficiency of the north bancke of Bedford River, it is ordered that it bee referred to Mr Latch and Mr Moore who are desired with all convenient speed to goe upon the place and take a view of the defects thereof and take speedy course for the repaire thereof.
- 19/07/53 8 Ordered that a sasse of twelve foote wide be layed by direction of Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to lett boates into the towne of Croyland and preserve navigation, which is to be shutt oneley in the tyme of floodes, accordinge to the report of the referrees lately made. And it is referred to Mr Hamond and Major Blake to contracte and agree with Christian for the doinge thereof at the lowest rate
- 20/07/53 1 **[Page 109]** Earle of Bedford, Mr Trenchard, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Mr Bland, Mr Hamond, Mr Bradley, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Major Blake, Mr John Russell, Mr John Arthur, Dr Fryer, Mr John Hurst, Mr Pemberton, Mr Dey
- 20/07/53 2 Upon the motion of Mr Oxburgh that hee might have supply of water by lettinge in the tydes, it is ordered that hee shall have leave to open the sea dores of the sasse at Well Creeke to lett in as many tydes as shall bee convenient for his accomodation, and Mr Welsh, Mr Pinchbacke and Mr Christian Derickson are to bee present at the openninge and shutting of the said sasse, which is to bee spard in the toppe and in the middle, provided that in the meane tyme the sluice at Nordale be carefully kept shutt and not opened during that tyme, to the intent noe prejudice may redownd to the Adventurers

21/07/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Hamond, Mr Mainston, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Colonell Underwood, Mr Bland, Mr B.Arthur, Mr John Arthur, Mr Say, Mr Bradley
21/07/53	2	Ordered that Mr Bland bee desired on Monday next to goe to Cambridge and bespeake copies of all orders and petitions to which ende the expendor is to pay unto him ten poundes upon account.
21/07/53	3	Ordered that Mr Pedley bee reteyned of Councill for the Companie to attend the tryall at Cambridge about the tolls
21/07/53	4	Ordered that it bee left to the care of Major Alexander Blake to provide 500 deales to bee imployed in the mendinge and repayringe of the north bancke of Moretons Leame, over and above the number hee formerly hath provided, and upon the certificate of Major Blake that the same are bought and provided for the purpose aforesaid, the expendor is to paie for the same and place it to account
21/07/53	5	Ordered that Mr Pedley shall have paid him by the expendor the sum of five poundes for his attendance on the Comissioners, being reteyned of councell for the Companie
21/07/53	6	Ordered that Edmund Welsh bee desired to take care to provide seaven score wheelbarrowes for the use and service of the Companie and, upon the certificate of Major Blake that the same is accordingly done, the expendor is to pay for the same placinge it to account.
04/10/53	1	[Page 110] Att Mr Daltons howse in Elie Richard Gorges, John Latch, Anthony Hamond, William Maniston, John Potts, Sir Edward Partherich, William Crane, Samuall Fortrey, John Carill
04/10/53	2	Severall landes beinge exposed to sale and noe payment cominge in, it is therefore ordered that all such Adventurers landes as were this day exposed to sale and not sold shall bee againe exposed to sale at the next meetinge of the Companie unles the arreres bee paid in by that tyme
04/10/53	3	Ordered that the cutts which were made in the north bancke of Bedford River to take the water from the Wash for convenienting of the workemen, bee noe longer contynued open but that they bee forthwith sufficiently made up againe two foote higher then the rest of the bancke adjoyninge, and well flagged in regard of the danger of floodes which are sodainly expected. And it is further ordered that the workemen doe speedily finish and flagge those reaches of worke which they have under hande that the earth may not bee carryed away when the floodes come downe and that care bee taken to amende and secure the worst places of the said bancke for the present untill the season of the yeare will permitt that more will bee done. And the speedy execution of this order is most strictly recomended to Edmund Welsh as a matter of very great concernment to the Companie and to give a speedy account to the conservator of that levell of his doinges therein. And Richard Goodson is to bee assistinge to him.
04/10/53	4	Ordered that the bookes, which by order of the Companie were heretofore delivered into the handes of John Latch while he was resident in the Country, bee now delivered to Mr Arthur Tench to be safely preserved by him for the use and service of the

Companie, to the ende hee may examyn all payments accordinge to the surveys and plans for dikes and dreynes

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| 04/10/53 | 5 | Ordered that the expeditor pay unto Corporall Ridgeley the sum of fiftie shillings for his charges in ridinge to and from about the insurrection at Swaffham and also to Marshall Wyett the sum of three poundes in lieu of his trouble and charge |
| 04/10/53 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Dalton attend Colonell Humphrey touching the Dutch prisoners that are now sicke in towne and acquaint him that, notwithstandinge the five poundes formerly paid to Cornett Pooke, they are willinge further to extend theire benevolence and charitye towards them to convey them to London and that hee hath order accordingly |
| 04/10/53 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Dalton shall have an allowance of twenty poundes a yeare for the use of his howse at Elie and ten poundes a yeare for a chamber and studdie for the clarke to preserve the recordes and writings of the Companie untill further order, and the said allowance is to begin from the sixth of September last, being the tyme the Companie first mett at the said howse |
| 11/10/53 | 1 | [Page 111] Att Mr Daltons howse in Elie

Sir Edward Partherich, John Carill, Samuell Fortrey, William Drewry, Anthony Hamond, Edward Partherich, William Mainston |
| 11/10/53 | 2 | Upon the information of Mr George Barnes that severall persons, whose names hee can discover, give out in speeches that they will throw in all the Adventurers dikes in and about Soham and Burway on Thursdaie next and will give notice thereof by ringinge a bell, it is ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Hamond of Soham, a justice of peace, givinge him tymely notice thereof to the intent he may take care to prevent any such insurrection. |
| 11/10/53 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Henry Tyrell shall have allowance and paid unto him as an overseer of the workes after the rate of twenty shillings a weeke from Midsomer untill March last, amountinge to the sum of thirteene poundes at which tyme his allowance is to cease and determyn. And the expeditor is to pay the same accordingly, taking his receipt and placing it to account. |
| 11/10/53 | 4 | The Companie doe adjourne to meete againe the two and twentieth day of December next and in the meane tyme to meete at Mr Henleyes howse at London 25th of October 1653. |
| 25/10/53 | 1 | Att Mr Henleyes howse without Temple Barre

Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Snr, Samuell Smith, John Marsham, Hohn Carill, John Fryer, William Cooke, Marke Bradley, Thomas Bland |
| 25/10/53 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Dalton doe forthwith retorne the sum of one hundred poundes for the present affayres of the Companie to bee paid to Mr Henley |
| 25/10/53 | 3 | Ordered that the Companie bee desired to meete at Mr Henleyes howse to persue the answer to John Maynards petition upon Thursdaie next at eight a clocke |
| 25/10/53 | 4 | That Mr Hopkinson doe forthwith come to London and bringe with him all the evidences for carryinge of the Companies busines and St Ives Law |

25/10/53	5	That Mr Moore bee here by the 10th November and bringe with him the new map hee was directed to make at Cambridge
07/11/53	1	Robert Henley Snr, John Fountayne, Thomas Bland, William Crane, Samuel Smith
07/11/53	2	Ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to send up witnesses to be here 15th of November from Isleham, Thomas Burton, Humphrey Bellamy, Ambrose Burrowes, William Martins and Roger Tompson
07/11/53	3	For the levell in generall, Mr Clapthorne, George Mannesly, Thomas Phillips, Francis Nutt, and Robert Pinchbacke, for Ramsey Mr Dalton to provide fower witnesses. Mr Manby to bee retheyned of councell against the hearing.
08/11/53	1	[Page 112] Sir Edward Partherich, Samuel Smith, William Crane, William Smith, Robert Henley Snr, John Trafford, Robert Lane
08/11/53	2	Upon perusal of the severall orders made touching the first lott, the Companie finde, by the originall contracte made at St Ives the 3rd July 1651, that the 1799 acres 2r in the said lott were to bee freed from all taxes untill adjudication. The Companie doe adjudge those wordes to bee that the said 1799 acres 2r are to bee freed from all taxes due and payable before adjudication but that the owner of the said 1799 acres 2r are to paie all taxes due and payable after adjudication. And whereas there was 7d an acre due and payable the 25th Aprill, 1st and not before, and a tax of 15d an acre due and payable the 1st June and 1st July last and not before and an adjudication passed in March last, the Companie therefore doe thinke fitt and hereby order that Thursday next in the forenoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of the said 1799 acres 2r or any parte thereof for non payment of the said taxes, as also a tyme for sale of all other defaulters landes
08/11/53	3	Order that Mr George Dalton the expeditor shall have allowed him for his extraordinary charges the sum of forty poundes over and above his allowance of twenty shillings in the hundred formerly settled upon him.
10/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Snr, Samuel Smith, William Crane, Sir John Potts, Thomas Bland, Sir Edward Partherich, John Trafford, Robert Lane, John Fryer, William Lake
10/11/53	2	Upon readinge the petition of John Knott and Robert Stone complayninge that 33 acres of their share of 150 acres in the 12th lott which they bought of Mr Stanley is claymed by Mr Thurloe, and that they all along havinge paid the taxes for the whole 150 acres, therefore praied some order therein. The Companie doe hereby order that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe forthwith attend Mr Thurloe with the said petition and know the answer there unto.
10/11/53	3	It was moved by Mr Henley that whereas 300 acres in Holme Fen were lett out unto some inhabitants of the townes of Glatton and Holme and that the lease will expire at St Ladys daie next, that the Companie would give way for him to have it by lease from them. It is ordered that if, upon consideration, they shall conceive it fit to take it out of their handes that then hee shall have the refusall thereof.
10/11/53	4	Ordered that twenty printed papers of the Parliament minutes and the comittees bee forthwith bought for the use and service of the Companie.
11/11/53	1	[Page 113] Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Snr, William Crane, Samuel Smith, Robert Castell, Robert Staunton, Robert Lane, Thomas Bland

11/11/53	2	Resolved upon the question that the narrative now reade over to the Companie bee agreed unto with the amendments that are now ready. And that Mr Pepis and Mr Pedley bee reteyned of counsell for the Company against Thursday next.
14/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Snr, William Crane, Alexander Jones, Robert Henley Jnr, Thomas Bland
14/11/53	2	Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe issue out unto Mr Barnes the sum of ten poundes upon account towards the charges of the witnesses now come up to towne to attend the hearinge on Thursdaie next
15/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, William Smith, John Latch, Sir John Potts, William Crane, Robert Lane, John Fountayne, Sam Bretton, Sam Fortey, John Marsham, Sir Edward Partherich, Alderman Allyen, Mark Holworthy, Thomas Bland
15/11/53	2	Ordered that Fridaie next in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters landes
16/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, William Smith, John Latch, William Crane, Samuell Fortey, John Carill, Francis Bretton
16/11/53	2	Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe forthwith issue out unto Mr Thomas Bland the sum of twenty poundes upon account for reteyninge counsell and other occasions against the hearing between the Companie and Sir John Maynard.
16/11/53	3	Ordered the Mr George Dalton shall have an allowance of a hundred and fiftie poundes for the yeare ensuinge to begin from the first day of November instant which is to be a full consideration for both the place of receivor and expendor.
18/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, William Crane, William Smith, Sam Smith, Sam Fortrey, Francis Bretton, Robert Henley Snr, John Carill, William Weston, John Fryer, William Goodson, Thomas Bland
18/11/53	2	Ordered that the clarke doe forthwith send for the tax rolles, the booke of subscriptions and the paper copie of the despositions taken at Peterburgh which were enrolled in chancery.
18/11/53	3	Memorand that the witnesses lately come up doe goe downe againe untill the Companie have further use of them and the clarke is to take a note of their names
18/11/53	4	[Page 114] Upon the paper received and read over this daie from the Lord Montigue, it is ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Jonas Moore doe take the same into consideration how they may accommodate his Lordshipp and therein to certifie the Companie.
18/11/53	5	Memorand that Mr Jessop bee forthwith desired to handscribe the depositions which hee tooke at the last adjudication att Elie to the end the Companie may have a copie thereof.
18/11/53	6	Ordered that two hundred comissions and two hundred declarations of the Generall and Councill of State bee forthwith printed.
18/11/53	7	Ordered that William Smith, Samuell Smith, John Fountayne, John Carill, Francis

Bretton, Robert Henley Snr, William Crane Esquires and Mr Thomas Bland, or any two of them, bee a committee and are desired to draw up a petition to the councell touching the busines of Sir John Maynard and for that purpose wee desire to meete tomorrow morninge at nyne a clocke.

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| 18/11/53 | 8 | Ordered that the clarke take care to sumons in all the Adventurers now in towne to meete at the usuall place of meetinge on Monday next at nyne a clocke in the forenoone, and to desire Comissary Generall Whalley to be also then present. |
| 19/11/53 | 1 | John Fountayne, Sam Smith, Dam Fortrey, Francis Bretton, William Weston. William Snith, John Carill, Thomas Bland, William Crane, Matthew Holworthy |
| 19/11/53 | 2 | Ordered the five hundred copies of the Companies answer to Sir John Maynards petition consistinge of six or seaven sheetes of paper bee forthwith printed for the use of the Companie. |
| 21/11/53 | 1 | John Fountayne, John Carill, Robert Henley Snr, Matthew Holworthy, Alderman Underwood, Francis Bretton, John Potts, William Smith, Cornelius Vermuyden, Thomas Bland, William Weston, Robert Lane, Sam Jones, John Fryer, William Goodson |
| 21/11/53 | 2 | Ordered that Mr George Dalton the expenditor doe forthwith issue out unto Mr George Barnes the sum of fifteen poundes for and toward the charges and expences of witnesses that come lately about the hearinge betweene the Company and Sir John Maynard over and above the ten poundes which hee formerly received |
| 21/11/53 | 3 | Whereas it beinge enformed that certaine land belonginge to Sir John Potts, lyinge nere Guyhurne and Wisbech HighFenn, is in order to the workes, cutt away and prejudiced, it is ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe take care forthwith to repaire to the said grownd and admeasure how much thereof is so cutt away and prejudiced and thereupon certified the Companie to the intent speedy satisfaction may accordingly bee given to the said Sir John Potts |
| 22/11/53 | 1 | Robert Henley Snr, William Crane, Samuell Fortrey, Cornelius Vermuyden, Sir Edward Partherich, John Carill, William Weston |
| 22/11/53 | 2 | [Page 115] Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe forthwith issue out unto Mr Roger Jennyns the sum of twenty shillings for transcribing of fower petiitons and twenty breviatees of the case of the levell |
| 23/11/53 | 1 | Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Esqr, William Crane, Anthony Hamond, John Trafford, Francis Bretton, Thomas Bland |
| 23/11/53 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Jonas Moore shall have an allowance of a noble a day towards his charges and expences in cominge up to London touching the hearinge betweene the Companie and Sir John Maynard to begin from the tyme hee tooke his journey from Southery, that is to say on the last untill [] next his retorne home, beinge [] days. And the clarke of the Company shall also have the same allowance from Monday the last of October to this present day since which the expenditor is to take notice of and pay the same accordingly, takeing their receipts and placing them to account. |
| 24/11/53 | 1 | Robert Henley Snr, William Smith, John Trafford, Samuell Fortrey, Thomas Bland, Sir Edward Partherich, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, Francis Bretton, John Fryer |
| 24/11/53 | 2 | Whereas severall dayes have byn appointed for the sale of the defaulters landes in payinge in the 15d tax due in June and July last, which out of favour to the defaultees |

were adjourned from tyme to tyme in expectation that the arreres would bee paid in, but findinge that the arreres are not yet paid, it is ordered that tomorrow in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed peremptorily for sale of all such defaulters landes

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| 24/11/53 | 3 | Whereas the Companie, takinge into consideration the busines of the towne of Over, and upon readinge of the order of the nynth of August last made therein, as also the report of Major Generall Desborow under his hand and seale bearinge date the 5th day of August 1653, they doe order and declare that they doe approve of and are willinge, as much as in them lyes, to accept of the offer of the sum of five hundred and fiftie poundes made by the said towne for one hundred and sixtie acres of land in question, the interest whereof being in Sir Gilbert Gerards and Mr Bridges. The Companie will endeavour to draw them to a compliance so as the said lands may become lyable with the rest of the 95000 acres to the payment of all future taxes. |
| 24/11/53 | 4 | Whereas a tax of too shillings an acre was layd at Elie the 4th of August last and payable the 20th of the same month, and whereas by a subsequent order made at Elie aforesaid the 30th of the same month all defaulters in payinge in the said tax were to forfeite nineteen pence, ten shillings a day for every hundred poundes from the 8th of September last and so pro rata for a greater or lesser some, but findinge that notwithstandinge the said order diverse persons whose name are hereunder written have not yet paid in the arreres of the said tax to the great damage of the Company, it is therefore hereby ordered that all the defaulters landes in payinge the said tax are hereby sequested into the hands of Mr George Dalton the expeditor untill the arreres and penalties of the said tax bee fully satisfyed and paid unles the said defaulters doe pay in their respective arreres at or before Satterdaie come sennight next, and it is further ordered that after the said tyme is expired, all such person or persons as have a mynde to lay downe any part of the arreres of the said tax shall reimburse themselves, not onely the tax but the penalties due from the 8th day of September last out of the said defaulters landes. |
| 24/11/53 | 5 | [Page 116] Ordered that the sallary of a hundred and fiftie poundes a yeare bee contynued unto Mr George Dalton as receivor and expeditor of the Companie for tyme to tyme, yearly, or so long as hee shall contynue in the said imployment. |
| 25/11/53 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Anthony Hamond, John Marsham, Cornelius Vermuyden, William Goodson, Thomas Bland, Robert Henley Snr, William Smith, Sam Jones, William Crane, John Trafford |
| 25/11/53 | 2 | Upon readinge of the paper of arreres and therein 200 acres of Mr Adams in the first lott, it appeares there was due upon the same the sum of eighteen poundes, fifteene shiilings which Mr Hamond, undertakeinge to discharge the next morninge, was done accordingly. |
| 25/11/53 | 3 | Mr Vermuyden, for 118 acres the same lott arrere by £8.06.03, which upon his promise to pay in this day three weekes, the Companie waved at present the sale thereof, the other arrere beinge undertaken to bee paid in. |
| 25/11/53 | 4 | Ordered that Mondaie next in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed to take into consideration a draft of a conveyance from the 4 trustees |
| 25/11/53 | 5 | Ordered that Mr Dalton bee hereby authorized to pay unto Sander the messenger his weekly allowance of seaven shiilings and six pence from tyme to tyme as hee was used to bee paid by Mr Jessop, beginninge from the tyme Mr Jessop last paid him. |

26/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges, Robert Henley Snr, William Crane, Cornelius Vermuyden, Anthony Hamond, Samuall Fortrey, William Smith, Samuel Jones, Mathew Holworthy, Thomas Bland
26/11/53	2	Whereas Mr Gilbert Wigmore hath this day given a bill of exchange for the payment of the sum of two thousand poundes at Cambridge unto Mr Dalton expeditor for the use and service of the Companie of Adventurers in the Great Levell of the Fennes, it is ordered that the said two thousand poundes shall be paid unto the said Gilbert Wigmore or his assigned at Mr Henleyes howse in manner followinge viz - five hundred poundes at or upon the nyne and twentieth day of November instant, five hundred poundes more at or upon the sixth daie of December next followinge and the sum of one thousand poundes at or upon the thirtieth day of the said month of December.
26/11/53	3	Order that Mr Bland, solicitor to the Company, bee desired to advice with counsell which way is best for levyinge the arreres of the two shillings tax lately sett at Elie.
26/11/53	4	Ordered that a tax of twelve pence an acre shall bee sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 which is to be confirmed att Elie 22nd of December next.
28/11/53	1	Earle of Bedford, William Crane, Anthony Hamond, Cornelius Vermuyden, Samuel Fortrey, John Marsham, Sam Jones, John Fryer, William Drewry
28/11/53	2	[Page 117] Ordered that Mr Thomas Manbey bee hereby named a refferee on the Companies part touchinge the 10000 acres, and Mr Bland the solicitor is forthwith accordingly to attend him with his fee and with full instructions touchinge the same.
28/11/53 p.m	1	Earle of Bedford, Alderman Alleyn, Anthony Hamond, William Drewry, Math.Holworthy, Sir Edward Partherich, William Weston, Sam Fortrey, Cornelius Vermuyden, John Carill, Thomas Bland
28/11/53 p.m	2	Whereas the Companie of Adventurers have byn necessitated, by reason of the backwardnes of some persons to bringe in their taxes, to take up two thousand poundes by bill of exchange to bee repaid here within one fortnight, the parties, hereunder written, out of their care of the Companies credit and to stop the great clamour of the workmen in the Country, have engaged to advance the severall and respective somes hereafter mentioned upon the credit of the next tax to bee repaid unto them by the expeditor with interest after the rate of six in the hundred, the proportion of the advance beinge a hundred poundes for every thousand acres and so for a greater or a lesser share. Earl of Bedford fower hundred poundes Richard Gorges one hundred poundes Anthony Hamond one hundred poundes William Drewry one hundred poundes Sir Edward Partherich one hundred poundes William Crane one hundred poundes William Goodson one hundred poundes Cornelius Vermuyden one hundred poundes Robert Hampson on hundred poundes John Carill seaventy poundes William Weston thirty poundes William Underwood one hundred poundes Thomas Alleyn one hundred poundes William Adams one hundred poundes

28/11/53 p.m	3	Upon the proposition made for the advance of severall somes on mony, thereunto the Companie doe hereby order that the persons that have or shall advance any sums of money upon the credit of the next tax, shall bee repaid the said sum so advanced by the expendor with interest after the rate of six poundes per centum from the date of the expendors acquittances to the tyme they receive the same, and noe person or persons as have or shall advance as aforesaid shall bee distryened theire lande, sequested or sold, untill they bee reimbursed the respective sums by them so advanced.
29/11/53 p.m	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, John Carill, Cornelius Vermuyden, Sam Fortrey, John Fountayne, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, Robert Staunton, Robert Hampson
29/11/53 p.m	2	Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe forthwith make breviates of the bill and answer in chancery dependinge, touchinge the northside of Wisbech and to attend Mr Hamond therewith, and receive his directions therein
29/11/53 p.m	2	Ordered that Mr Dalton the expendor doe forthwith issue out unto Mr George Barnes, to defrey the charges of the witnesses attendinge the Companie here in towne, the sum of five poundes, whereupon they are at present to bee discharged
29/11/53 p.m	2	Ordered that Mr Barnes doe forthwith goe downe with Mr Moore to Lynne and procure a counter petition to that lately presented to the committee of petitions touching navigation and to that ende hee is to have copies of the petition now depending
29/11/53 p.m	2	That Mr Barnes take care to send to Mr Alderman Tolles at Lyn a three legged cart for the use of Mr Brewster
30/11/53	1	[Page 118] Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Alderman Underwood, William Drewry, Mr Bland, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, Wiliam Weston, John Carill, John Hurst
30/11/53	2	Whereas Mr George Dalton the expendor is forthwith to goe downe into the levell and hath deputed Mr Robert Blanchard to receive the mony in his absence, the Companie doe order and declare that the said Mr Blanchards acquittance shall bee a sufficient discharge for what sum of mony hee shall receive for the use of the Company upon enteringe of the said acquittance with the clarke of the Companie
01/12/53	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, Cornelius Vermuyden, Andrew Henley, Thomas Bland
01/12/53	2	Ordered that Mr Jonas Morre the surveyour bee forthwith requested to send up a perticuler mapp of the land hath byn made enquiry after by the Lord Generall.
01/12/53	3	Ordered that the schedules of the severall landes taken out by the Adventurers in the Great Levell of the Fennes, mentioned and expressed in St Ives Law, bee forthwith printed and published at the charge of the whole Company.
01/12/53	4	That Mr Hamond bee desired to obteyne from Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, the late expendor, a perticuler of all such landes as have byn cut through and prejudiced and have byn paid by the Company, and forthwith send it up to the Company.

02/12/53	1	John Fountayne, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, Alderman Alleyn, Cornelius Vermuyden, Thomas Bland
02/12/53	2	Ordered that the whole Company now in towne bee summoned to meete tomorrow morninge at nyne of the clocke to consider what answer to retorne to the Committee of Petitions upon the order of sumons left with Mr Henley the last night.
03/12/53	1	John Fountayne, Anthony Hamond, John Carill, Alderman Underwood, Thomas Bland, William Crane, John Trafford, William Weston, Richard Holman, Robert Hampson, Robert Henley Snr
03/12/53	2	Mr Henley caused the Companie to be acquainted with an order hee received for the Committee of Parliament for petitions, the debate concerninge which was adjourned untill the afternoone.
03/12/53 p.m	1	[Page 119] Richard Gorges, Anthony Hamond, John Carill, William Smith, John Fountayne, Math Holworthy, Robert Henley Snr, William Weston, Thomas Culpeper, Robert Hampson, William Mainston
03/12/53 p.m	2	Resolved That the Adventurers now present will draw up a petition to the Committee of Parliament for Petitions to excuse their non attendance yesterdaie upon the committee for want of tymely notice of their sumons, and to make defence to the petitions of Lynn and Cambridge That the substance of that defence shall bee to shew them that the matters complayned of are eyther matters of facte already adjudged, or matters releivable in ordinary course of justice and most of them there dependinge, and thereupon desire to know the further pleasure of the Parliament to whome the busines of Sir John Maynards petition is to bee reported, whether the matter of facte in those petitions shall bee examyned
03/12/53 p.m	3	Resolved That there bee a savinge in the said petition to all the Adventurers and their assigned that have not signed the same, and that the petition shall not goe in the name of the Company but to bee signed by the perticuler Participants who approve thereof Ordered that Richard Gorges Esqr, William Smith, Alderman Underwood, John Fountayne and Richarge Lackwall Esqr, five of the Participants, or any three of them, bee desired to attend the Committee of Parliament for Petitions and present the petition now agreed upon the said Committee on Monday next.
03/12/53 p.m	4	Ordered that the clarke doe forthwith engrosse the said petition and afterwards enter the same into the booke of orders of the Company which petition is as followeth To the right honorable the Committee of Parliament for Petitions The humble answer of the Adventurers and Participants with William Earle of Bedford in dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes and their assigned whose names are subscribed by way of defence to the petitions of the towne of Lynne and Cambridge, Brandon, Hockwold, Knight and Waterbeach in obedience to the order of the honorable committee of the first of December instant.

- That the 4th of August last some of the said Participants, accordinge to an order of this honorable committee, attended to have made defence to a petition prosecuted by Sir John Maynard but, upon his desire, the same was deferred to the 17th of November last at what tyme they attended again but this committee were not pleased to heare them on it but thought fitt to know the pleasure of the Parliament tending to overthrow an Acte of the late Parliament and spared the time of the members of Parliament, and although severall other petitioners were that daie reade att the said committee tendinge to overthrow the said Acte of Parliament, which the petitioners have had just cause to suspecte were procured and encouraged by the said Sir John Maynard yet were not the petitioners admitted to heare the resolutions of this honorable committee touchinge the same, nor had any order of sumons to attend this honorable committee save that annexed of the first of this month last, left with one or two of the Participants, which was to attend the next daie and make defence, whereof the petitioners had no notice till the second of this month in the eveninge, then soe many of them as could had notice and did without delay, the 3rd of the same month, meete together to prepare their defence which they hereby humbly tender, so farre as come unto themselves humbly concerne themselves, humbly desiring that their nott attendance and makinge deference the 2nd of this month. may not bee reported as a default in any of them and that their present defence may not prejudice any participants or assignee that doth not subscribe to this answer.
- That in order to their defence to the said petition, they humbly offer to your honorable consideration that they, with many others, have adventured their estates in dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes upon the order and authority of an Acte of Parliament (the great and onely unquestionable security of this Comon Wealth), and hath disbursed above £300000 upon that undertaking, and ten Comissioners appointed judges by that Acte, to witt Bulstrode Whitlocke and John Lisle, two of the Lord Comissioners of the Great Seale of [Page 120] England, St John Boucher, Sir John Trevor, Sir Henry Myld nay knight, William Leiman (all uninterested persons in reference to the undertakers) of great integrity, after publique summons to the Country, hearing all objections, and after examination of witnesses upon oath on all partes, and upon their owne view, have adjudged the same to bee dreyned according to the said Acte which judgement remayneth an unquestionable in pointe of law, and none of the said judges are so much charged with, much lesse, convicted of any corruption in the said judgement, and those Comissioners and fiftie more or any six of them are appointed judges to heare and determyn any complaintt accordinge to the said Acte, besides 24 Comissioners appointed by the Councell of State in the intervall of the last Parliament, all living upon on nere the said levell of Fennes for the ease of the Country.
- That as to the said petitions conceiving the prejudice to the navigation, they humbly offer that it was proved upon the adjudication that full as much if not more freshwater did run out at Lyn Haven, and as large and open a channell was left for the tydes of the daie to flow and retorne as ever, and that the tydes did flow as high into the Country as formerly with the advantages that they did now flow and retorne in a streight channel instead of the crooked one, which was stopped by the sasse or sluice complayned of, and that Cambridge navigation which was hindered a small space of tyme by passage through the sasse was abundantly recompenced many severall wayes with advantage and many other thinges satisfactory in those perticulers not fitt as wee humbly conceive to bee here enumerated, and the raisinge the prizes of water carriage appearinge to be

a contrivance of the watermen for there were then those present who were of ability and would have undertaken to have carried all comodities as cheape as ever insomuch, as one of the said Comissioners though of nere relation to the said towne of Cambridge did joyne in the said judgement, and this last somers constant navigation at all tymes not withstandinge the great drought, which never was formerly in well yeares, is an undeniable testimony of the advantage of that navigation.

- That the inhabitants of the towne of Brandon did 24 March 1653 petition the Comissioners att Elie to have theire fennes contynued to them, and by order of the said Comissioners the matter was referred to John Kendall of Lynford gent named by themselves and Edward Andrews gent who were implored to examyn upon oath and heare and determyn the same or otherwise certifie to the said Comissioners, which refference the said inhabitants have fayled to prosecute heither to and so that matter remayneth dependinge in an ordinary course of justice undetermined by theire owne default.
- That the inhabitants of the towne of Waterbeach did the same tyme present like petition, and had an order of refference to Robert Ibbott of Cambridge, gents named by themselves, and Nathaniell Hobart Esqr who had the power to examyn upon oath here and determyn the same who accordingly did examyn many witnesses upon oath which expositions were left with Mr Ibbott and dependinge in the ordinary course of justice, undetermyned through theire owne default, and Mr John Knight, one of the inhabitants of Waterbeach, who hath opposed all authority, throwne in the dikes and workes in a rioteous and tumultuous manner and by force or armes withheld possession contrary to due course of law.
- That the inhabitants of the towne of Hockwold did the same tyme preferre a like petition, and had order of refference to John Kendall of Linford Hall Esquire, named by themselves and John Mingay Esqr to heare and determyn witnesses upon oath and certifie which yet remayneth dependinge and unprosecuted by the townesmen.
- Wherefore by way of defence to all the said petitions, they humbly offer that inasmuch as the said petitions concerning Lyn and Cambridge tend to the overflowinge of the said worke of dreyninge, equally with that of Sir John Maynards, and as his petition would call in question matters of facte adjudged and settled by the Parliament, so this petition, matters of facte adjudged by the said Comissioners appointed by the said Acte upon theire view and examination of witnesses, upon oath, without provinge any of the said judges interested persons or guilty of any corruption, the consequence whereof will make cases dependinge upon matters of facte endles, where any person remaynes unsatisfyed with any determination though never so just and make your owne determinations uncertaine and so bringe a generall unsettlednes to the estates of all people of this Comon Wealth.
- And forasmuch as the matters complained of in all the other petitions are relievable in the ordinary way of justice if there bee just cause of complaintt, and the most now dependinge, and not proper as they humbly conceive to take up the tyme of the supreme legislature court of Parliament and for that the busines, upon Sir John Maynards petition, remaynes under consideration to bee offered to the Parliament.
- The petitioners humbly praie that they may not be enjoyned to make any further answer or defence to any matters against facte of the said petitions allready

adjudged by the said Comissioners appointed judged by the said Acte, or to any matters which are relievable in ordinary course of justice out of Parliament, shall bee pleased to declare theire further pleasure, it beinge a matter not onely highly importinge to the petitoners and all concerned with them in theire present undertaking, but all the people in this Comon Wealth in the peaceable enjoyment of theire estates.

[Page 121] And the petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray thee

Rober Henley
William Wunderwood
William Smith
William Mainston
Thomas Bland
Anthony Hanond
William Crane
Edward Cooke
Robert Blackwall

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| 03/12/53 p.m | 5 | Ordered that Mr Hamond and Mr Henley be desired to attend Mr Attorney Generall with his fee and take care hee may bee instructed of councell against the meetinge of the Comissioners on Monday next. |
| 06/12/53 | 1 | Robert Henley Snr, Cornelius Vermuyden, Alderman Underwood, Anthony Hamond, William Crane, William Weston, Sir Edward Partherich, William Mainston, Thomas Bland |
| 06/12/53 | 2 | Upon readinge of the bill of charges delivered in this daie by Mr John Rynes, servant to Mr Henley, amountinge to the sum of six poundes and 11 shillings and fower pence, it is ordered that Mr Thomas Bland sollicitor to the Companie doe forthwith take care to pay the same out of the mony remayning in his hands (if any bee) and take his receipt and place it to account. |
| 06/12/53 | 3 | Upon readinge the preamble now agreed upon to bee inserted before the schedules in St Ives Law, it is ordered that the said preamble together with the schedules in the said St Ives Law bee forthwith printed and published at the charge of the Company according to the order of the Comissioners named at theire last session att Cambridge. |
| 07/12/53 | 1 | John Russell, Richard Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Snr, Alderman Underwood, Anthony Hamond, John Marsham, Alderman Alleyn, Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Rampson, William Mainston |
| 07/12/53 | 2 | Ordered that the clarke of the Company take espetiall care to provide a copie of the Companies petition to the howse against tomorrow morninge and hee is to sett the names of the Adventurers to the said petition, and also to attend at the Parliament howse door with a map of the workes |
| 08/12/53 | 1 | Alderman Underwood, Robert Henley Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden, William Crane |
| 08/12/53 | 2 | Ordered that there bee a map forthwith printed describinge the bridges, sluces and dryenes made by the Company of Adventurers and Mr Clayforth, the drawer, is to have eleaven poundes for the designe thereof and Mr Dalton the expendor is to paie him five poundes in part thereof forthwith |

08/12/53	3	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Jonas Moore to the effecte that hee with all convenient speed take care to send up an exacte mappe of the 200 acres claymed by the Lord Generall to the Companie, as also to have a vigilant [Page 122] eie to the double sasse at Salters Lode and the sluice at Stow that noe evill disposed persons may prejudice the same while the busines touchinge navigation is here above dependinge.
08/12/53	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Lewis Godfrey that the Companie doe approve of his care in procuringe witnesses touchinge navigation and they desire him to enquire out what others hee can to testifie that navigation is better then it was before in regard of the dam and sasse at Salters Lode, and to send up their names to the intent that when the Companie have neede of them they may bee sent for.
10/12/53	1	Richard Gorges, Robert Henley Snr, Anthony Hamond, Cornelius Vermuyden, John Carill, William Weston, Tymothy Neale
10/12/53	1	Ordered that two bills now presented to the Companie bee paid by Mr Blanchard in the absence of Mr Dalton the expeditor, that is the say one bill for six poundes one shilling and fower pence layd out by Mr John Rynes and another bill of three poundes one shilling and eleaven pence layd out by the clarke of the Company, both bills amountinge to the sum of nyne poundes three shillings and three pence for which hee is to take their severall receipts and place them to account.
10/12/53	2	Ordered the 500 copies of the reasons for betteringe of navigation bee forthwith printed, and Mr Baddeley is to have twelve shillings for printinge thereof, which copies are to bee brought to the howse doore and are by the clarke to bee distributed to the members of Parliament.
12/12/53	1	Richard Gorges, Alderman Underwood, John Carill, William Crane, William Weston, Thomas Bland
12/12/53	2	Ordered that Mr Blanchard, in the absence of Mr Dalton, bee desired forthwith to pay unto the clarke of the Company the sum of fower poundes and eleaven shillings which hee this day disbursed to severall messengers and expresses for the service of the Company for which hee is to take his receipt and place it to account.
12/12/53	3	Ordered that the clarke and Mr Bland the sollicitor doe forthwith take care to carry downe all the writinges and records in towne of the Companie against the meetinge of the Comissioners at Elie on Tuesday 20th December instant and then and there to give their attendance
13/12/53	1	Richard Gorges, John Carill, Robert Henley Snr, Cornelius Vermuyden, Thomas Bland
13/12/53	2	Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Samuell Smith Esquire, one of the members of the Company, to desire him to meete them at the Bell in Elie on Tuesday next, beinge the 20th of December instant, and Mr Crane is desired to send the same unto the said Mr Smith.
14/12/53	1	[Page 123] Richard Gorges, Robert Henley Snr, Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Gale, William Weston, William Mainston
14/12/53	2	Upon readinge a letter from Mr Jonas Moore intymatinge that some evill disposed person in the Country give out in speeches now upon this change of government that the double sasse, sluices and dam at Salters Lode shall bee cut downe and distroyed to the prejudice of the whole levell, it is ordered that a petition bee forthwith drawne to

his Excellency the Lord Generall to desire hee appointe a foote company to bee resident on the place for prevention of the said outrage. And William Weston, Alderman Gale, Colonell Castell and Mr Vermuyden are desired to attend the Generall and present the said petition tomorrow morninge.

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| 14/12/53 | 3 | Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to give him an account of what Mr Moore by letter enformed the Companie touchinge the dam and sasse at Salters Loade and to desire his care for preventinge any prejudice that may happen to the said sasse and dam untill there bee a foote companie of soldyers sent downe to guard the same. |
| 15/12/53 | 1 | Robert Henley Snr, Andrew Henley, Robert Henley Jnr, Cornelius Vermuyden, William Weston, John Mainston, William Mainston |
| 15/12/53 | 2 | Whereas by an order bearinge date the 30th Aprill 1653, the Lord Comissioner Whitlocke is appointed a refferee in a case there mentioned by consent of all parties, his Lordshipp beinge gone into Sweden, the Lord Comissioner Keeble is hereby named a refferee in his stead. |
| 15/12/53 | 3 | Ordered that Mr William Mainston shall have forthwith paid unto him by Mr Robert Blanchard, in the absence of Mr G.Dalton, the sum of eleaven poundes for the charges of fower witnesses that came up to London that should have been examyned touchinge the towne of Cottenham, accordinge to a bill of charges under his hande dated 4th December 1653 |
| 15/12/53 | 4 | Ordered the Mr Andrew Henley and Mr Vermuyden bee desired to attend the Lord Generall and give him an account of the 200 acres hee claymed, and a letter is to bee written to Mr Jonas Moore as followeth by the clarke |
| | | Mr Moore - The enclosed to Mr Thurloe, I received together with the mapp and depositions, but the Companie has expected to have had their order pursued in sending it to them that so it might have come for them to the Lord Generall his Lordshipp, acquainting the Companie upon all occasions with the hard usage hee received in the not setting out that lande. And in the next place, I am to mynde you that the Company thinke strange that you should mention in your letter a former satisfaction in the thinge, whereas my Lord this very daie to some of the Company sent to him, said that hee should bee forced to petition against them in this case. In the next place, I am ordered to desire you forthwith to send what Adventurer land lyes in the peece and in what lott. |
| 20/12/53 | 1 | [Page 124] Att the sign of the Bell in Elie |
| | | Richard Gorges, Anthony Hamond, Sam Smith, John Carill, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Major Alexander Blake, Samuell Fortrey, Thomas Bland |
| 20/12/53 | 2 | Ordered that the officers of the Companie doe forthwith repaire into some private place to consult together and afterwards draw up an estimate of the workes fit to bee done this winter, reducinge every worke to the proper place as was as may bee, together with the charge thereof and present the same in writinge to the Company tomorrow morninge. |
| 20/12/53 | 3 | Ordered the Mr Dalton the receivor doe forthwith issue out the sum of six poundes to Mr Pepis and as much to Mr Pedley who were reteyned of councell for the Companie before the Comissioners at Elie, and likewise the sum of six and fortie shillings to Mr Barnes for charges of witnesses. |

20/12/53	4	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Henley and another to Mr Thurloe giving them an account of the proceedings here, and that the Comission falling of came not by any default of the Companie
20/12/53	5	That St Ives Law printed, bee sealed up and the copie taken from the printer and kept safe and not distributed abroad until the pleasure of the Companie bee further knowne
20/12/53	6	That the names of all such Comissioners as disappeared this day bee sent up to the members of the Company in London.
21/12/53	1	Richard Gorges, Anthony Hamond, Samuelle Smith, John Carill, Samuell Fortrey, Thomas Dey, Thomas Bland
21/12/53	2	Ordered that Thomas Burton forthwith send up to London, with a letter to Mr Thurloe and Mr Henley, givinge them and the rest of the Companie at London an account of the proceedings here. For his journey hee is to have fiftene shillings paid unto Mr Dalton the receivor
21/12/53 p.m.	1	Richard Gorges, John Carill, Thomas Dey, Alexander Blake, Anthony Hamond, Samuell Fortrey, Samuell Smith, Francis Underwood
21/12/53 p.m.	2	Ordered that the order of tax for one shilling arreare, payable the 1st of February next, now reade and agreed upon, bee by the clarke engrossed in parchment against tomorrow morninge.
22/12/53	1	Richard Gorges, Anthony Hamond, Samuell Smith, Samuell Fortrey, Thomas Bland, Francis Underwood, John Carill, George Gascoigne, Alexander Blake
22/12/53	2	[Page 125] Whereas complainte was made by diverse workemen imployed in scowringe at Elme Leame, who alledged the severall sums of money due and owinge unto them were not yet paid, and it beinge then also alledged that some of the said workemen had not performed their worke accordinge to contracte, it is therefore ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to take their bills and allow of such as have performed their contracte and give order for payment thereof as soone as mony comes in. Thomas Lewis of Upwell one of the workemen is to have but fortie poundes in part paid unto him, and hee is to give his hand as seale to Mr Hamond as security to goe on with his contracte and finish his worke by the 1st of September next, and the residue of the mony is to remayne untill hee finish his contracte.
22/12/53	3	Upon readinge the orders made 30th of Aprill 1653 and 15th of December last and consideration had thereupon, it appeared to the Companie that the refference in the first order mentioned to the Lord Whitelocke and Major Generall Harrison was only by the consent of Mr Henley and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and was made to the prejudice of the Companie, and that the conveyances therein mentioned to bee made by Mr Henley and to Mr Henley which ought to have byn prepared by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley have byn neglected, whereby the Companie suffer much both for want of taxes and their security, and that the last order of the 15th December above mentioned was surreptitiously obteyned after the same had byn moved and rejected in a full Companie the day before, now it is therefore ordered that the said last order of 15 December bee discharged and made void, and that Mr Henley within one weeke after notice hereof shall make a conveyance of the 5th lott to Mr William Crane and Mr Jessop, and to their heires according to the said order of 30th Aprill last and that if Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley doe not agree the

differences between them and pay all taxes due and in arrere for the 5th lott before the first daie of the next terme that then the said lott or any parte thereof shall bee exposed to sale for want of payment of the said taxes.

22/12/53 4 Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor shall have a scope of the last above mentioned order delivered unto him by the clarke and hee is to deliver the same to Mr Henley before two witnesses that are not of the Company and to deliver another copie thereof in like manner to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden

22/12/53 5 The Company findinge that the sum of £67.06.03 arrere upon Mr Vermuydens land in the first lott is not yet paid, although hee promised to pay the same long since

Resolved upon the question

That the land belonginge to Mr Vermuyden in the 1st lott shall bee forthwith exposed to sale.

Whereas Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr hath made default in payinge in the tax of fiteene pence an acre, due and payable the 25th of Aprill last, as also the tax of 15d an acre, parte of his share or proportion of 728 acres of Adventurer lande in the first lott, amountinge to the sum of £67.06.03, now forasmuch as 100 acres lying in Haddenham Comon, a part of the said 718 acres, were this day exposed to sale and Francis Underwood Esqr, now present, offered £270 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the puchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Francis Underwood and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto him the said Francis Underwood his heires and assigned, provided that the sum of £67.06.03 bee paid in by the said Francis Underwood or his assigned to the receivor of the Companie within a weeke after the date hereof and the residue of the purchase mony amountinge to £202.13.09 is to bee paid to the receivor at or before the 2nd of February next which sum is the bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte, otherwise this order of sale is void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said purchase money, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Francis Underwood shall have an assurance made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate and to his and their heires.

22/12/53 6 Instruction for demandinge *melio racion* that the conservator in the Middle and North Levell shall procure a surveyour and two sufficient witnesses that may bee able to dispose at London the improvement of the severall landes in the adjacent levells

- To enquire in whose charge the banckes were formerly mainteyned, what they did yearely cost, together with the length and breadth thereof and that prejudice was done to the adjacent lands by the forkinge the bancke
- **[Page 126]** To enquire whether the townes have not byn used to allarms by right by reason of sodaine floodes and inundations
- To enquire the values of the perticuler farmes, what they were before and what they are since the undertaking, and also how often and how long the landes have usually byn under water upon former overflowinges before the dreyninge
- That the wittnesses bee such as have knowne the levell long before the dreyninge

22/12/53	8	Ordered that Mr George Dalton the receivor doe forthwith pay unto Mr George Barnes for his paines and charges in procuring witnesses for the servinge of the Company the sum of ten poundes for which hee is to take his receipt and place it to account.
22/12/53	9	Ordered that Mr George Dalton the receivor doe forthwith paie unto Mr Thomas Bland the sum of fifteen poundes, nynteene shillings, according to a former order of the Companie of 13 July last and a certificate thereupon, takinge his receipt and placinge it to account.
22/12/53	10	Ordered that the receivor doe forthwith paie unto Mr Samuell Smith the sum of six poundes for his charges and paines in attendinge the Comissioners
23/12/53	1	Att the White Hart in Elie Richard Gorges, Anthony Hamond, Francis Underwood, Samuell Fortrey, John Carill, Thomas Bland
23/12/53	2	Upon the petition of Christian Derickson and upon the readinge of a perticuler of contracts made with him under the hand of Mr Tench, wherein hee demanded the sum of two hundred and twelve poundes, eight shillings and five pence, and whereas there is too overtoes mentioned in the said perticuler that are not yet sett downe, which come to fower hundred poundes, the Companie thinke fitt to lett him have the said overtoes and the sum of twelve poundes, eight shillings and five pence in full of all his demandes mentioned as of all other demands whatsoever, and Mr Dalton is to take his receipt accordingly
23/12/53	3	Ordered that Mr Fortrey shall have liberty to sett rayles att the lower ende of his 400 acres in Byall Fenne crosse the north bancke of Bedford River and shall have the herbage of the 400 acres in Byall Fen, as aforesaid, in consideration whereof hee hath agreed to destroy all the moles and thistles so much prefudiciall to the said bancke
23/12/53	4	Ordered that the Company doe adjourne to meete againe at Mr Henleyes howse at London the six and twelveth day of January next where the clarke of the Company is to attend with the revered of the Company
24/12/53	1	Att Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre William Earle of Bedford, Sir John Potts, Roabert Castell Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Andrew Henley Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Robert Staunton Esqr
24/12/53	2	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to this effecte, that hee bee desired to send up the booke which hee was to pass to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, and that the rest of the Companie would hasten up to London to the ende in this juncture of tyme they may procure a remedy to those grievances that are most upon them both in the pointe of taxes and otherwise
24/12/53	3	That the printer of St Ives Law bee paid by Mr Blanchard
01/01/54	1	[Page 127] Sir John Potts, William Say, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Andrew Henley Esqr

This daie the messenger brought a letter from Mr Hamond to the Earle of Bedford and another to Mr Henley with an answer to a petition and pamphlett put in printe called *navigation prejudiced by the fenn dreynes*, whereupon it is ordered that two copies of the said answer bee written out, one to bee sent to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the originall to Mr Marsham, and they to add to it or diminish what they thinke fitt betweene this and Monday too a clocke in the afternoone, at which tyme the Companie doe desire then to meete or to send theire answer in writinge, or otherwise as they shall thinke fitt, and Mr Dalton is desired to take care that the said answer bee forthwith put to writinge and that a copie of this order bee sent to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and another to Mr Marsham

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| 09/01/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Underwood Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Robert Henley Jnr Esqr, William Marsham Esqr, Arthur Samuelle Esqr, Thomas Allen Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Mr Bland, Mr Bradley |
| 09/01/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Bland doe peruse the bills for printinge the answer to Sir John Maynards petition and St Ives Law, and what hee is to allow of Mr Dalton is to pay. As also hee is to pay Mr Edwards seaventeene shillings and six pence for the enrollment of the deed of the land purchased of the inhabitants of Ramsey and that the clarke of the Companie doe enter the enrolled deede in his booke together with the endorsement. |
| 09/01/54 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Dalton make a perticuler of all such landes as the Adventurers have purchased and that the same bee fairley engrossed in a booke to bee made for that purpose |
| 09/01/54 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired to state the accoumpts between Mr Henley and the Companie and to send it to the Companie |
| 09/01/54 | 5 | Ordered the Mr Playforth shall have five poundes in part towards the printinge of the map discribinge bridges, sluces in the levell paid unto him by Mr Dalton |
| 09/01/54 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Marsham bee desired to agree with the printer five hundred of the bookes in answer to a late printed pamphlett intituled <i>navigation prejudiced by the fenn dreynes</i> , and what hee allowes of the expendor is to pay accordingly |
| 16/01/54 | 1 | Richard Gorges, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Andrew Henley Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Matther Holworthy Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Robert Henley Jnr Esqr, Thomas Bland gent |
| 16/01/54 | 2 | [Page 128] Ordered that a letter bee sent to Mr Hamond to know whether twenty foote soldyers will not serve at the sasse at Salters Loade, and to allow payment 7d a peece a weeke to so many as are there, and that Colonell Goffe did acquainte the Companie that they complaine they are not well quartered and desired they have respecte shewn them which the Companie approved of. |
| 16/01/54 | 3 | Ordered that ten poundes bee sent to Mr Peters to gratifie him for his journey to Cambridge |
| 16/01/54 | 4 | Whereas information was this daie given that the inhabitants of Warboys had throwne in part of the devision dikes of 80 acres or thereabouts belonginge to the Adventurers upon pretence that the said 80 acres are over and above the proportion of 1868 acreas assigned to the Adventurers by St Ives Law, it is thereupon ordered that Mr Jonas Moore and Gabrielle Elliott doe forthwith meete together and jointly |

survey the whole proportion assigned to the said Adventurers by St Ives law, whether the said proportion bee wholly sett out to the said Adventurers over and above the said 80 acres, or how much thereof fall short. And they are to retorne their survey under their hands to the Companie by the 1st daie of February next

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| 16/01/54 | 5 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the expeditor to the Company doe paie unto Mr Richard Badderley the sum of twenty poundes upon account in part towards the printinge of St Ives Law. |
| 16/01/54 | 6 | Richard Gorges, Robert Gale Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich Esqr, Amderman Alleyn Esqr, William Adams Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Earle of Beford, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Thomas Bland. |
| 16/01/54 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor doe forthwith state of accompts betweene Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley touching payment of taxes upon the order of 30th Aprill last and thereupon present the same to the Companie |
| 16/01/54 | 8 | Whereas it was enformed by Sir Edward Partherich that Sir Thomas Davis alledged hee hath land taken out of Woodwalton by the Companie of Adventurers more then they ought to have by St Ives Law whereby hee is much prejudiced, and it is enformed by Mr Henley that hee, having received a letter for his surveyour certifying that the land assigned unto him out of Woodwalton falleth short in measure 317 acres, it is ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour doe forthwith admeasure the 937 acres taken out of Woodwalton and, before hee goes about the same, to acquaint Sir Thomas Davies therewith to the intent hee may (if hee please) imploy a surveyour of his owne to joine with the Companys surveyour and thereupon certifie the quantity and content of acres taken out of Woodwalton and how much lande falls short of measure. |
| 16/01/54 | 9 | Whereas diverse differences have arisen, as well betweene Mr Henley and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, as Mr Henley and the Companie of Adventurers and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, touching the purchase of the 5th lott and upon the Articles of Agreement between Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the Companie, now in regard that a finall ende may bee made of all the said differences the said Companie, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley doe hereby jointly referre the determination of the same to John Fountayne Esqr who is hereby desired to determine the said differences and his determination shall bee bindinge to the Companie of Adventurers, the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and Mr Henley, but the Companie and all other parties declare that if the said Mr Fountaynes determination bee not performed by all parties before the 1st of February next that then the order of 30 Aprill last shall stand good to all intents and purposes, but it is to bee understood, beinge soe agreed betweene all parties, that the said 5th lott for so long tyme as it shall remayne in the hands of Mr Crane and Mr Jessop, shall [Page 129] bee lyable to sequestration distres, sale and other penalties and forfeitures for non payment of taxes which shall become payable after this daie, and that they shall not passe the said 5th lott or any parte thereof away before all the taxes due and payable at the tyme of such conveyance bee paid, and in the said conveyance or conveyances shall insert a clause that the said landes so conveyed shall stand lyable for the future to the payment of all taxes charged, and payments with the residue of the 95000 acres and all sales distresses, sequestration and other penalties and forfeitures for non payment of the same, wittnes our hands the day and yeare above written. |

Cornelius Vermuyden
Robert Henley

19/01/54	1	William Earle of Bedford, William Say Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, John Fryer Esqr
19/01/54	2	Ordered that Mr Thomas Bland the sollicitor doe take care forthwith to advise with councell whether, if the Companie doe distreyne goodes upon landes for non payment of taxes, the owners may releive the same
19/01/54	3	Ordered that Mr George Dalton and the clarke of the Companie doe both goe downe to Westminster tomorrow morninge and see Sir Cornelius Vermuyden signe the order made yesterday touchinge the 5th lott.
19/01/54	4	Memorand Mr Bland to take care to gett the writt upon the statute of Northampton renewed and put in execution
20/01/54	5	Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Andrew Henley Esqr, Mather Holworthy Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, William Smith Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr
20/01/54	6	Whereas divers townes on the south side of Bedford River complayne that they are not meliorated by any workes done by the Adventurers, it is therefore thought and ordered that the Comissioners, whose names are to St Ives Law, bee desired at the Companies charge to take a journey into the levell on the south side of Bedford River and there take a view of the landes taken out of the said townes, and thereupon, accordinge to their best judgement, certifie the Comissioners named in the Acte of Parliament against the first meetinge after the next terme, whether or noe the said landes are bettered by the workes made by the Companie of Adventurers
21/01/54	1	Richard Gorges Esqr, Arthur Samuell Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, Colonell Goffe, William Say Esqr, Tymothy Neale Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr
21/01/54	2	Ordered that there bee a generall meetinge on Tuesdaie next in the afternoone
21/01/54	3	This day it was thought requisite that a petition should bee drawne and taken into consideration on Tuesdaie next in the afternoone touching a supply of some thinges wherein the Acte of Parliament is defective.
21/01/54	4	[Page 130] Upon readinge a letter from Mr Hamond, with the enclosed answer to a printed pamphlett touching navigation, it is ordered that the clarke of the Companie doe forthwith goe with the said letter and enclosed answer to Mr Marsham to desire him (to prevent mistakes) to examyn the 1st printed copie of the said answer.
24/01/54	5	Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Carill Esqr, William Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Jnr Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, William Weston Esqr, William Underwood Esqr
24/01/54	6	Ordered that Mr Dalton and the clarke of the Companie doe forthwith attend Mr Fountayne with all the bookes and orders of the Company and esppecially with all writings evidences and records touchinge and concerninge the 5th lott
24/01/54	7	Ordered that Richard Gorges Esqr, William Marsham Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Carill Esqr and Mr Thomas Bland or any two of them are hereby desired to attend Mr Fountayne this afternoone touchinge the ending and finall determyninge of all differences about the 5th lott upon the order of refference made therein
31/01/54	1	William Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Patherich, Robert Henley Jnr Esqr, Cornelius

Vermuyden Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Andrew Henley Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland, Robert Castell Esqr, Henry Henne Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, William Underwood Esqr, John Carill Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Mr Richard Holman

31/01/54 2 Ordered that Mr Dalton the recievor doe forthwith paie unto Mr Badderley, the stationer, for printinge St Ives Law and printinge other thinges for the Companie, the sum of seaven and twenty poundes in full of all demandes from the Companie, taking his receipt for the same and placinge it to accoumpt.

31/01/54 3 Upon readinge of the finall determination in writing this day delivered into the Company by John Fountayne Esqr touchinge all differences about the 5th lott, it is ordered that the said finall determination bee forthwith entered into the booke of orders of the Companie and the originall writinge itselfe is to be kept and preserved amongst other records of the Companie which finall determination is as followeth viz

The determination of John Fountayne Esqr made the 30th daie of January 1653 for a finall ende of all differences arisen before the 18th of this instant January betweene Robert Henley Esqr and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight, and the said Robert Henley and the right honorable William Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants in dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes otherwise called or knowne as the Companie or Corporation of Adventurers and Participants and Undertakers for [Page 131] the dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes or Companie of Adventurers, and between the said Cornelius Vermuyden and the said Companie accordinge to an agreement and submission made by all the said parties touchinge the parties of the 5th lott parcell of 20 lotts within the said Great Levell and upon the Articles between the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the said Companie which agreement and submission is declared in an order of the said Company of the 18th daie of January instant 1653

31/01/54 4 I have heard Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr on behalfe of the said Sir Cornelius, the said Robert Henley Esqr and Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Marsham Esqr and Mr Thomas Bland on behalfe of the said Companie, and I doe determyn that the said Robert Henley ought not to pay any taxes due and payable for the said 5th lott after the 26th day of March 1653 though imposed and sett before but that the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden ought to pay the same. And as to all the taxes due and payable for the said 5th lott before the said 26 day of March 1653 the same ought to bee paid by the said Robert Henley. And therefore, there being £1716.13.04 arrere and now due and payable to the said Companie for the said 5th lott, I doe determyn that £941.13.04 part thereof, due and payable before the 26th March 1653, ought to bee satisfied to the Companie by the said R.Henley and £775 residue thereof shall bee forthwith paid to the said Companie by the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and that the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall upon request seale and deliver to the said Robert Henley his heires, executors and assigned a release of all differences touchinge the 5th lott arisen before the said 18th of January 1653, and the said Robert Henley shall seale and deliver to the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden a like release of all differences touchinge the said 5th lott arisinge before the said 18th January 1653, the draughts of which releases I have perused and hereto annexed. I doe further determyn that the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall, upon request made by the said Earle of Bedford or any other in the behalfe of the said Companie, seale and deliver to the said William Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants in dreyninge the said Great Levell, their heires and assigned and the Companie or Corporation of Adventurers, Participants and Undertakers for the dreyninge of the said Great Levell of the Fennes, a release of the said articles and all covenants and agreements, therein conteyned, and of all differences touching the said 5th lott, arisen before the said 18th of January 1653, a draught of which release I have also prepared and have here unto annexed.

And I doe further determyn that upon payment made by the said Cornelius Vermuyden for the said arrere of taxes before mentioned, shall and may have 2000 acres parcell of the said 5th lott conveyed to the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and his heires as that all taxes which shall become payable for the said 2000 acres after the date hereof and before such conveyance bee first paid to the Company and that in such conveyance a clause, mentioned in the said order of the said Companie dated 18th January 1653 for makeinge the said 2000 acres lyable to payment of future taxes, bee inserted, and when the said Earle of Bedford, Edward Russell, Robert Henley and Robert Castell Esqrs, trustees named in the Acte of Parliament for dreyning the said Great Levell, shall execute legall estates to any other Adventurers concerned in any other lotts for dreyninge the said Great Levell then also to execute a like legall estate of the said 2000 acres to the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden his heires and assigned with provision therein for the payment of taxes for the future with 2000 acres as are these hereafter mentioned viz -

Middlemore in Ramsey - 400 acres
 West Fen and West Fen Crosse - 488 acres
 Lakenheath towne moores - 200 acres
 Whitemore Comon next unto Wisbech Fennes - 200 acres
 Westmoore South - 400 acres
 Westmore North - 50 acres

The adjudication to make the lott 4000 acres

Haddenham Comon - 78 acres
 Wicham Comon 10 acres and severall 4 together - 14 acres
 Chartris severalls - 5 acres
 Throckenhall by Clowes Crosse and next Clowes Cross - 5 acres
 Part of 16 acres severall of Well and Welnea - 15 acres

And for the residue of the 5th lott being 2000 acres more, I determyn that the interest and estate in pointe of law doe contynue in the said.

- 31/01/54 5 **[Page 132]** Earle of Bedford, Edward Russell, Robert Henley and Robert Castell, their heires and assigned for the space of 7 yeares to bee accounted from the last adjudication of the said levell according to the said articles, and although I doe find that the charges of dreyninge the said Great Levell accordinge to the intent of the said articles (besides the charge of officers sallaries, purchase of landes for conveniencing of dreyninge, suytes of law and comissioners meetinges) did and doth amounte to above 100000 acres whereby there is stritenes according to the said Articles due and payable from the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to the said Companie the sum of £1894, I doe determyn that if the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall for five yeares next ensuinge the date hereof give his advise, direction and assistance to the said Companie from tyme to tyme and at all tymes as occasion shall require for preservation of the said levell from surrounding and avoydance of prejudice to navigation to the intention of the said Acte of Parliament, that then the said Companie shall freely release and remitt to the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden the said £1894 and shall forbear to demand the said £1894 untill the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall faile in givinge such advise, direction and assistance. But if hee shall faile in giving such advice, direction and assistance, then the said Company may thereupon require and demande the said £1894 and for non payment thereof, the said 2000 acres, which are to remayne in the said trustees hands as aforesaid, or so much thereof as will raise the said £1894 may bee sold for satisfaction thereof to the said Companie.

- 31/01/54 6 I doe further determyn that the whole 4000 acres of the 5th lott shall from hence forth contynue lyable to pay taxes to all intents and purposes as the other 19 lotts and to like penalties and forfeiture for non payment. But in the tax rolls from hence forth, the said 2000 acres part of the said 5th lott, which are to remayne in the said trustees for 7 yeares, as aforesaid, shall bee entred in the names of the trustees, their heires and assigned in trust for the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden according to his Articles and a subsequent determynation made thereupon of the 30th June 1653, but the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to receive the proffits of the said 2000 acres and dispose of the same to his owne use untill hee faile in payment of taxes or performance of what he is to performe by my determynation. And if all or any part of the said 2000 acres last mentioned shall bee sold for non payment of taxes, the surplusage of such sale above the said taxes is to be reteyned by the said trustees, their heires and assigned. And I doe determyn that the said Company shall under their comon seale give a release to the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden of all differences arisen betweene them and the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden touchinge the said 5th lott and Articles before the said 18th day of January 1653 provided it extend not to release anything within this determynation. A draught of which release I have prepared and is hereof also annexed.
- 31/01/54 7 And I doe further determyn that the said Earle of Bedford, his Adventurers and Participants, or five or more of them, shall seale and deliver an indenture tripartite dated the 31 day of January 1653 betweene the said Earle, his Adventurers and Participants of the 1st parte, the said Robert Henley Esqr of the 2nd parte, and Andrew Henley Esqr and Robert Henley the younger, two sonnes of the said Robert Henley and one William Pawlett gent appointed thereunto by the said Robert Henley of the 3rd part, mentioning the conveyancing of all their interest in 500 acres in Byall Fen and in 937 acres parte of Woodwalton Comon and in 100 acres in Higney growndes and 463 acres parte of 963 acres to bee indifferently set out of Holme Fen, according to the draft of an indenture which I have allowed and is signed by mee to testifie my allowance thereof, which beinge signed and sealed, is not to bee enrolled in chancery but entered in the booke of entres belonging to the said Company at the said Robert Henleys charge. And this is to bee an ende of all differences between the said Robert Henley and the said Companie touching the proportion of land to bee conveyed by the Company to the said Robert Henley as part of his satisfaction for the said 5th lott by an agreement betweene the said Robert Henley and the said Companie, expressed in an order of the said Companie of the 13th of Junes 1651, in regard that 500 acres of Byall fenne, part of the 1000 acres in that order mentioned since the said order (by the consent of the said Robert Henley) was to be conveyed to John Trenchard Esqr and, after by both their consents, conveyed to Algernon Sydney Esqr and his heires (with which 500 acres I doe not meddle but leave the same to beare its owne proportion of taxes which became due and payable since the last adjudication which are £3.10.00 per acre). And touchinge the £3650, payable by the said Companie to the said Robert Henley for the said 5th lott, I doe finde that the said Robert Henley is £898 debtor to the Companie resting in his handes ever since he was treasurer to the Company and, thereby, and by the said £941.13.14 by him payable for arrere of taxes as aforesaid, and by other monyes by him due and payable to the Company for tax of 2000 acres parcell of the said 2500 acres since the said adjudication being £387.10.00, and £1192.06.07 due by him for taxes of his other Adventurer landes **[Page 133]** being 4683 acres which makes in all £3419.09.11, therefore resteth due and payable to him from the Companie the sum of £300.10.00 which I determyn to bee paid to him by the Companie out of the said £775 payable by the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to the said Companie in full of the said £3750. And I doe lastly determyn that the said Robert Henley shall release to the said Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants their heires and assigned all matters arisen in difference betweene them touchinge the said 5th lott before the said 18th day of

January 1653 and the said Company under the Comon Seale to give the like to the said Robert Henley accordinge to the draughts, here to also annexed.

31/01/54 8 But in case the said Robert Henley shall not procure William Say Esquire to consent that £750 (entred in the receivors booke of the Companie as paid by the said Robert Henley for the said William Say) shall bee applied towards part of former arreres of taxes upon the said 5th lott payable by the said Robert Henley and discharge the said Companie of that sum and cause the said receivors booke to bee amended accordingly, then the said Robert Henley shall pay the Companie £750 more for arrere taxes of the said 5th lott which are not anyway satisfied to the Companie unles by that £750, and must promise his sonne Mr Andrew Henley to doe the like for £100 by him mentioned to bee deposited or paie the said £100 and John Trenchard Esqr for £50 or pay the said £50. And in case the said Robert Henley shall not also procure John Trafford Esqr to consent that £145.08.01 entred in the receivors booke, as paid by him as part of a purchase of the said 4653 acres, shall bee applied towards payment of part of the taxes for the said £4653 and discharge the said Companie of that sum, then the said Robert Henley is debtor also to the said Companie which hee ought to pay them the sum of £145.08.01, over and besides the said £1192.06.07 mentioned to bee in arrere for the taxes of the said 4653 acres. I doe not thinke fit to charge the said Robert Henley with any interest for the said £898 nor with any taxes for the said 2500 acres due and payable before the last adjudication. And although it bee not within the refference to mee, so that I determyn nothing in what hereafter followes, yet humbly propound too thinges on the said Robert Henleys behalfe to the Companie, fitt as I humbly conceive for theire consideration, first that the said Robert Henley being to receive £898 out of old arreres, there was upon the sale of 1000 acres of land by the Companie to Colonell William Underwood £1700 by him paid for the purchase which is answered to the Companie upon accoumpt, part of which £1700 is undoubtedly part of the old arreres but it doth not appeare how much, but whatsoever of that £1700 was for old arreres ought to bee answered to Mr Henley, and I conceive Mr Jessop may determyn the same. Secondly Mr Henley pretends that in his 2000 acres part of the said 2000 acres there are many turffe pitts and besides that there wants above 300 acres in measure of the 937 acres in Woodwalton Comon, though I am not satisfied to give allowance as to the turffe pitts but leave him to the same remedy as all other Adventurers which have turffe pitts in theire shares and devisions, yet of it shall appeare, upon due examination that there shall be want such a quantity in measure which shall not bee otherwise supplied, I hold it very worthy for the Companies consideration to give some reliefe to the said Robert Henley therein and not suffer all that lesse to fall upon him by that want of meazure.

31/01/54 9 There are also thinges propounded in the said Sir Cornelius Vermuydens behalfe as namely touchinge liberty to bee given to him exchange a great part of the said 2000 acres which I take not upon mee to meddle with as not being within my refference but shall take the boldnes with the 1st oportunity to offer that and some other thinges on his behalfe to the consideration of the Company given under my hand the day and yeare 1st above written.

John Fountayne

Signed and published by the said John Fountayne in the presence of H. Whitaker, John Belgrave

31/01/54 10 The draft of the release him Robert Esqr to William Earle of Bedford and the Companie of Adventurers

Bee it knowne unto all men theis presents that Robert Henley the elder of the Middle

Temple London doe for myselfe, my heires, executors and administrators, release unto the right humble William Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants in dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes and unto the Companie and Corporation of Adventurers, Participants and Undertakers for dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes and their successors any differences which have arisen between mee and the said William Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants and the said Companie and Corporation of Adventurers at my tyme before the 18th day of January 1653 touchinge the 5th lott of Adventurer landes parcell of the said Levell, I witnes whereof I have hereunto put my hande and seale 30 day of January 1653.

31/01/54 11 **[Page 134]** The draught of the release from the Companie to Robert Henley Esqr

Bee it knowne unto all men by theis presents that the Companie and Corporation of Adventurers, Participants and Undertakers for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes are hereby for them and their successors released unto Robert Henley of the Middle Temple London Esqr and his heires executors and administrators all differences which had arisen between them touchinge or concerninge the 5th lott of Adventurer landes parcell of the said levell at any tyme before the 18th day of January 1653.

31/01/54 12 The draught of release from Sir Cornelius Vermuden to William Earle of Bedford and the Companie of Adventurers

Bee it knowne unto all men by theis presents that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight doe for myselfe, my heires, executors and administrators release unto the right honorable William Earle of Bedford his Adventurers and Participants in dreyning the Great Levell of the Fennes, their heires and assigned, and unto the Companie and Corporation of Adventurers and Participants and Undertakers for dreyninge of the said Great Levell of the Fennes and their successors, all differences which has arisen between me and the said Companie and Corporation of Adventurers at any tyme before the 18th day of January 1653 touchinge the Articles made between them and mee that said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, bearinge date the 29th day of January 1649 and touchinge the 5th lott of Adventurer landes parcell of the said Great Levell, in witnes whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this 30 day of January 1653.

31/01/54 13 The draught of release from the Companie to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden

Bee it known to all men by theis presents that the Companie and Corporation of Adventurers, Participants and Undertakers for dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes doe hereby for them and their successors release unto Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight, his heires, executors and administrators all differences which have arisen between them and the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden at any tyme before the 18 day of January 1653 touchinge the Articles made between them and the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bearing date 29 say of January 1649 and touchinge the 5th lott of Adventurers landes parcell of the said levell, provided that this release doe not extend to such things as are by the said Sir Cornelius to be performed, or the said Companie is to receive by and according to the determynation of John Fountayne Esqr in writing under his hand dated 30 day of January 1653 in witnes, whereof the said Companie have caused their comon seale to hereto affixed this [] dat [] 1653

31/01/54 14 The draught of the release from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden to Robert Henley Esqr

Bee it known to all men by theis presents that Sir Cornelius Vermuden knight, whereby for mee, my heires, executors and administrators release unto Robert Henley of the Middle Temple London Esqr, his heires, executors and administrators all

differences which have arisen between us for touching or concerning the 5th lott of Adventurer land parcell of the Great Levell at any tyme before the 18 day of Jan 1653, in witnes whereof I have here unto sett my hand and seale this [] day of [] 1653

- | | | |
|----------|----|--|
| 31/01/54 | 15 | <p>The draught of the release from Robert Henley Esqr to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight</p> <p>Bee it knowne unto all men by theis presents that Robert Henley of the Middle Temple of London Esqr doe hereby, for mee, my heires, executors and administrators release unto Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight, his heires, executors and administrators all differences which have arisen between us for touching or concerning the 5th lott of Adventurer land parcell of the Great Levell at any tyme before the eighteenth daie of January 1653, in wittnesse whereof I have hereunto sett my hande and seale this [] day of [] 1653.</p> |
| 31/01/54 | 16 | <p>[Page 135] Ordered that Colonell Robert Castell Esqr, John Carill Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland, or any two of them bee desired to consider of the exchange proposed by Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr on the behalfe of his father, beinge of 2000 acres in the 5th lott that are not to bee disposed of untill seaven yeares bee expired to begin from the last adjudication, and they are to meete forthwith and make theire report to the Companie how they find the same on Satterday next.</p> |
| 31/01/54 | 17 | <p>Ordered that Mr Alderman Underwood and Mr Henley bee desired to use the best endeavour they can for endinge and composinge all differences touching the ten thousand acres, and a letter is to bee sent to Alderman Alleyn desiringe him to meete the Companie tomorrow in the afternoone touching the same, and they are desired also to consider whether the 400 acres in Byall Fenne sold to Alderman Sydney Esqr are not to pay taxes since the adjudication equally with the rest of the Adventurer landes</p> |
| 31/01/54 | 18 | <p>Ordered that William Jessop Esqr bee desired with his soonest conveniency to state the account of the Companie, and Mr Alderman Alleyn and Mr Alderman Underwood are hereby desired to examyn and take a view of the same and thereupon make theire report ro the Companie</p> |
| 31/01/54 | 19 | <p>Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor bee desired to attend Mr Fountayne and consider how the Companie may have their rewards, evidences and writings preserved, kept and layd up for the use of the Company to which severall presses are to bee made, and inventories of the said records and writings</p> |
| 01/02/54 | 1 | <p>William Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Cornelius Vermuyden, William Crane Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Alderman Underwood, Alderman Alleyn Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Thomas Draper Esqr, Mr William Lake Esqr, Colonell Goffe, Thomas Bland</p> |
| 01/02/54 | 2 | <p>Upon reading a letter from Mr Moore, the surveyour, it is ordered that Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr bee desired to acquaint his father with the said letter and request him to write a letter of direction to Mr Hamond in answer to the said letter of Mr Moore touching the sluices and sasses at Stow and Salters Load. And a letter is to be sent to Mr Hamond to put in execution what directions Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath given herein.</p> |
| 01/02/54 | 3 | <p>It beinge enformed that Mr Hathorne the graver is lately fallen sicke whereby hee cannot goe on in making the map appointed to bee made, it is ordered that John</p> |

Marsham is desired to imploy some other fitt person to perfecte the same and Mr Dalton is to pay such mony as Mr Marsham shall thinke fitt.

01/02/54 4 Upon a letter from Mr Hamond touchinge the guard att the sasse and dam att Salters Lode, Colonell Goffe beinge present was desired to give some directions that a dozen soldyers att present may bee left behinde to bee quartered at Downham, and that two of them may watch by turnes only, and the Companie desire that Mr Hamond would give order they have have good quarters provided for them.

01/02/54 5 **[Page 136]** Whereas Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood did formerly purchase 100 acres in Haddenham Comon in the 1st lott belonginge to Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, as by order of 22 December last may appeare, but in regard no conveyance is yet passed from the Companie nor the purchase mony yet paid by the said Francis Underwood but that the mony in arrere is paid in by Cornelius Vermuyden for the said 100 acres, it is agreed therefore by and with consent of the said Francis Underwood, testified by setting his hand hereunto, that hee is to take noe benefitt by his said contracte with the Companie touchinge the same but that the said Cornelius Vermuyden and his assigned are to enjoy the said 100 acres as in his former right the aforesaid, contracte notwithstandinge

Fran Underwood

01/02/54 6 Ordered that Mr Fountayne shall have a lease of the 500 acres in Glatton and Holme, that is to say 300 acres in the wash, and 200 acres the remaynder of the 663 acres to be indifferently sett out, which lease is to bee for the terme of three yeares to commence at Lady day next at £150 a yeare rent.

Ordered that a letter bee witten in answer to Mr Moores letter as followeth

Mr Moore - For the busines at Warboys, the Companie are as much unsatisfied as ever, and doe desire you to look upon St Ives Law and there you will finde too severall parcells, one of 1868 acres and another of 496 acres, lyinge in Warboys or Ramsey, now though this bee devided in St Ives Law, yet they lye promiscuously together and the Companie desire to know of you whether the proportion of land as is now devided from the Country doe conteyne, together, so much as is mentioned in both those parcells. If they doe not, how much wants, and this they desire to bee done without delay. For the other part of your letter touchinge the imbanking of the river from Elie to Salters Loade and touchinge the sluces there, the Companie have thought fitt to recomende your letter, as to that parte, to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden their director who hath written at large to Mr Hamond what to doe therein and doe expecte yourselfe, and all other their officers, to pursue his direction in this case. They have comanded mee to intimate as much to Mr Hamond and, havinge yesterday received a letter from him touchinge the guard at the sluice and dam, they have direction in the presence of Colonell Goffe that hee would be pleased to provide that a dozen soldyers onely may bee reserved to quarter at Downham, the rest to bee dismissed to their quarters att Yamouth, two of which 12 may attend every night by turns, and Mr Hamond to take care they may have good quarters att Downham. Orders are sent downe to Colonell Goffe to this purpose.

03/02/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Mathew Holworthy Esqr, William Say Esqr

03/02/54 2 Whereas it was formerly agreed by Mr Latch, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood and Mr Jonas Moore that if the towne of March would erecte a new cart bridge and forever after mainteyne the same, the Adventurers were to pay unto Mr Maximillian Vernatt,

who undertooke to build the same, the sum of ten poundes towards the charge thereof. Now upon the certificate of the said Mr Jonas Moore that the said ten poundes is due to the said Mr Maximillian Vernatt, it is ordered that the said sum of ten poundes bee forthwith paid unto the said Maximillian Vernatt by Mr Dalton receivor of the Companie

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| 03/02/54 | 3 | Upon a bill this day produced by Mr Henley of disbursments layd out by him amountinge to the sum of fiftie fower pounds eighteen shillings and a penny, it is ordered that Mr George Dalton, the receivor, doe forthwith pay the said sum of fiftie fower poundes, eighteene shillings and a penny, taking his receite and placing it to account. |
| 03/02/54 | 4 | [Page 137] Ordered that the clarke doe forthwith draw up a copie of the last tax to the intent that councell may bee advised with all to know what opinion they are of touchinge the same |
| 03/02/54 | 5 | Upon consideration of the conveyances to bee had from the fower trustees of all the proportions of Adventurer landes, it is thought fitt and ordered that the clarke of the Company doe tomorrow morninge attend the right honorable Earle of Bedford with a copie of the conveyance amended by Mr Latch of councell for the Companie to the intent that if his Lordshipp hath a mynde hee may advise with councell or otherwise joyne with the rest of the trustees in conveyinge of severall proportions of land to each Adventurer accordinge to the said draft. |
| 06/02/54 | 1 | Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir David Watkins, Robert Henley Esqr, Henry Henne Esqr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, William Crane Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Samuell Smith Esqr, Thomas Hampson Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Mr Page, Mr Neale, Mr Bland |
| 06/02/54 | 2 | Whereas it beinge informed by Sir Gilbert Gerard that his Adventurer landes in Palmer Fenne nere Benwick Mere is not yet diked out and therefore it was desired it may bee done to avoyd any difference that may arise between the said Sir Gilbert Gerard and the towne of Benwicke, it is ordered that Jonas Moore the surveyour doe forthwith give order that the said land bee diked out from the said Benwick Mere accordinge as is desired |
| 06/02/54 | 3 | Ordered that Richard Gorges and Sir David Watkins and Mr Crane or any two of them bee desired to attend to Comissioners named in the Acte of Parliament to the intent they may meete in the Middle Temple Hall the 7th day after this terme |
| 06/02/54 | 4 | Ordered that against the Comissioners next meetinge there be oath made by the sollicitor and clarke of the Company that they did attend att Elie accordinge to the adjournment from Cambridge but the Comissioners did not meete. |
| 06/02/54 | 5 | That the Comissioners named in the Acte would, at their next meetinge, adjourne to a fortnight after Easter next, and notice in the meane tyme may bee given to the townes on that part of the levell where the Companie expecte melioration and that a petition to the said Comissioners bee then presented to this purpose |
| 06/02/54 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Hathorne the graver shall have 40s over and above the sum of eleaven poundes which is forthwith to bee paid unto him by the receivor of the Companie for engravinge a map of the levell |
| 06/02/54 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor of the Company doe forthwith pay unto Mr Francis Rowland the clarke of the Comissioners the sum of ten poundes, sixteen |

shillings and six pence accordinge to his bill this day presented to the Companie, and Mr Dalton is to satisfie him for other his demands or the foote of the said bill

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| 08/02/54 | 1 | Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, William Smith Esqr, William Crane Esqr, William Say Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Mr Holman, Mr Bland |
| 08/02/54 | 2 | Upon readinge the petition of Dorothy Hobart, the relicte of Colonell John Hobart, on behalfe of herselfe and her sonne Myles Hobart, an infant, the Companie taking notice of theire former orders by which they declared that the said Colonell Hobart should enjoy the 27 acres in the 18th lott parcell of his grownd called Marmions, and withall that Mr Stevens who purchased the same amongst other Adventurer landes of the late Earle of Arundell [Page 138] did declare and agree that the said Colonell Hobart should enjoy the said 27 acres 1 rod accordingly, and the same is so entered in the booke of orders of the Companie, and yet that Captain Blackwall who hath since purchased the said late Earles Adventurers landes doth make clayme to the said 27 acres 1 rod, doe thinke fitt and order that the petitioner and her said sonne, to whome the said Colonell Hobart hath desired the same, shall hold the same accordinge to theire former orders and if the Companie can obteyne 27 acres and 1 rod to bee set out by the Lords Comissioners in lieu thereof in another place then they shall hold the same free of taxes but if the Companie shall not obteyne such other landes in lieu, then the said petitioners and her sonne are to pay the taxes which shall hereafter grow due and payable for the said 27 acres 1 rod and hold the same as Adventurer landes parcell of the 95000 acres, and to bee so entered in the tax roll |
| 10/02/54 | 1 | Richard Gorges Esqr, Algernon Sydney Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Sir Edward Partherich, William Crane Esqr, Sam Smith Esqr, William Say Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Bridges Esqr, Sir David Watkins, Alderman Underwood, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Sir John Potts, Francis Bretton, Mr Lake, Mr Bland |
| 10/02/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor doe forthwith issue out unto Mr Thomas Bland upon account the sum of twenty poundes to reteyne councell and for other occasions of the Companie |
| 10/02/54 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor doe forthwith pay unto Thomas Burton, a messenger that came up from Mr Hamond, the sum of fifteen shillings over and above the five and twenty shillings which hee formerly received of Mr Hamond for his charges and paines in serving subpenas and cominge up to towne with letters form Mr Hamond |
| 13/02/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Alderman Allyen, Cornelius Vermuyden, John Trafford Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Sam Smith Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Say Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Lake, Mr Bland |
| 13/02/54 | 2 | Upon a proposition this day in writinge delivered into the Companie by John Trafford Esqr touchinge the dreyninge of the Fennes of Tyd St Giles Newton and the low grownd of Leverington, consisting of about 10000 acres, it is ordered that Mr Vermuyden bee desired to shew the same to Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, and that the Companie make of theire request hee would deliver his opinion thereupon in writinge to the Companie |
| 13/02/54 | 3 | Ordered that the Companie doe meete every daie at 3 a clocke in the afternoone in order to the preparation of busines against this day sennight, being a tyme appointed for the Comissioners meetinge in the Middle Temple Hall touchinge melioration |

- 15/02/54 1 **[Page 139]** Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, William Crane Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Sam Smith Esqr, Mr Holman, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Say Esqr, Sir John Potts, William Smith Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, William Weson Esqr, Mr Bland
- 15/02/54 2 Upon the petition of the hamlett of Benwick, this day read over to the Companie, desiringe bridges, highwaies, droves and passages, it is ordered that the same bee referred to Richard Gorges Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr and Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour or any two of them who are desired to take the same into their consideration and with all convenient speede make their report to the Companie what is fitt for them to doe thereupon and Mr Cony who is concerned therein is to have convenient notice of this order
- 15/02/54 3 Whereas severall parcells of the 95000 acres in arrere for taxes to the prejudice of the Companie and the workes of dreyninge and preservation of the levell, which beinge this day taken into consideration, it is ordered that the said taxes in arrere shall bee forthwith levied by distres, and in case after the distres is to bee sold for satisfaction of the said tax or taxes and the surplusage (if any bee) is to bee restored to the right owner or owners, and Mr Dalton and Mr Jonas Moore or eyther of them are to take care to see this order put in execution
- 15/02/54 4 Whereas Sir John Potts moved the Companie this day that in regard his land allotted to him in the 16th lott is prejudiced and cut away towards the workes of dreyninge, whereby 28 acres thereof falleth short in the measure hee is to have, it is ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe forthwith take advice of counsell whether land so cut away and prejudiced by reason whereof the proportion allotted falleth short in measure to any Adventurer whether hee may have a supply from the Country out of the grownd next adjoyninge or from whome hee is to have his recompence. In such case the Companie have declared that Sir John Potts is to be recompenced in the first place.
- 15/02/54 5 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to desire him the see the order of distres put in execution and the names of the Adventurers in arrere for taxes are to bee sent unto him
- 16/02/54 1 Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Latch Esqr, Mr Bland
- 16/02/54 2 A letter this day produced from the Lord Deputy of Ireland directed to Mr Styrrup complayninge of injustice done to him in his land at Methwold, beinge cutt and prejudiced and noe satisfaction given, whereupon the Companie, as in all other like cases, desires his demandes may bee sett downe in writing against Wednesday next in the afternoone to which his agent agreed
- 16/02/54 3 Mr Moore - I am comanded by the Companie to signifie unto you that the map of the Lord Protectors land which you formerly sent up was delivered to Mr Thurloe but in regard the map cannot bee found and the Companie having very great use of it att present, they would have you make another map of the same land and that you would there upon sett out what proportion is **[Page 140]** taken out of that land for dreyninge and so set downe to what lotts it is allotted and, if you can, what Adventurer now posseseth it, and this to bee done with all the speede you can and send it heither. I am likewise comanded to put you in mynde that the Companie are very much troubled that they have not as yet a map of the whole levell setting forth how the Adventurer land is take from the Country and how it is sett out in the lott devidions, of which they desire a speedy account

17/02/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Say Esqr, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Syndey, William Crane Esqr, William Smith Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, John Trafford Esqr
17/02/54	2	Ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour bee desired to meete with Mr Screathes, surveyour, and joyne with him to admeasure the Adventurer land taken out of Soham Fenne, and certfie the Company what land is taken out for the Adventurers and whether there is more land taken out then by the Law of St Ives is required
17/02/54	3	Ordered that Mr Heveringham bee desired to sett downe his demands in writing and forthwith present the same to the Companie, and the Companie will take the same into consideration
17/02/54	4	Ordered that Mr Bland, sollicitor of the Companie, at the next meeting of the Comissioners doe procure an order from them to all the surveyours in the levell to sett out the Adventurer land as is sett forth by St Ives law and not otherwise
18/02/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr Bland, John Fountayne Esqr, Richarg Gorges Esqsr, John Marsham Esqr, Samuell Smith Esqr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr
18/02/54	2	Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham and Mr Crane, or any two of them, bee desired to consider of some present, to the value of forty poundes, to be given to Mr Fountayne for his great paynes in the Companie affayres, and the expendor doe forthwith issue out the same as they shall directe
18/02/54	3	Whereas Mr Shadwell this day, on the behalfe of Mr Heveringham, came to demand satisfaction for land cutt away in order to the workes of dreyninge, lying in Brewers Fenne in Hockwold and Wilton or elsewhere in the County of Norffolke, whereupon it is ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to consider of what quantity of land is cutt away and to contracte for the purchase thereof between this and the next terme, and to take notice that Mr Arthur Samuell hath a lease in possession for which hee is to have satisfaction out of the purchase mony
18/02/54	4	Upon readinge a petition touching melioration, it is ordered that the same bee prepared and engrossed against Monday next and then presented to the Comissioners at their meeting in the said Middlge Temple Hall
20/02/54	1	[Page 141] Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Arthur Samuell Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr Bland, William Crane Esqr, Robert Hampson Snr Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Henry Henne Esqr, Mr William Mainston
20/02/54	2	Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Hamond to desire him to procure five or six of the Comissioners having 200 acres a peece to meete on the 2nd of March next to adjourne the session of sewers to the 2nd of March next at Elie and the Companie will eyther then or some tyme before render the reason of this adjournment
20/02/54 p.m	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Latch Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden, William Smith Esqr, Arthur Samuell Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, William Say Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, Aldeman Underwood, John Fryer Esqr, Mr William Mainston, Mr Bradley, Mr Lake, Mr Bland
20/02/54 p.m	2	Upon consideration, this daie had, touchinge the conveyances desired now to bee

executed by the trustees named in the Acte of Parliament to perticuler members of the Companie of their proportions of the 95000 acres, it is ordered that the execution of such estates shall bee forborne for many weighty reasons untill the 3 yeares bee expired from the last adjudication

20/02/54 p.m 3 Ordered that if the townes of Cottenham, Willingham and Waterbeach, as is enformed, shall referre all differences dependinge betweene them and the Company unto Robert Castell of East Hatley in the County of Cambridge Esqr, the Companie will hereby give their consent thereunto that hee shall have full power to heare and determyne the same

20/02/54 p.m 4 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Samuell and Mr Bland bee hereby desired to present a petition this day drawne and signed by the Companie to the Lord Protector, and it is also ordered that what sum or sumes of money shall bee layd and touching the same the expendor is forthwith to issue unto the said Mr Gorges as hee shall thinke fitt.

20/02/54 p.m 5 Resolved upon the question

That Sir Cornelius Vermuyden shall have hereby power to dispose of

100 acres in Grunty Fenne

172 1/2 acres in Stretham

111 acres in Hockwold and Wilton

81 acres (out of 464 acres 1/2) in Connington in the 5th lott

and to exchange them for 461 acres in Whelpmore parcell of the 4th lott and the said 461 acres are to remayne in the hands of the 4 trustees named in the Acte of Parliament upon such trust as the residue of the 2000 acres in the 5th lott are to bee lyable and subject unto.

23/02/54 1 Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Mr Marke Bradley, Mr Bland

23/02/54 2 **[Page 142]** Whereas Mr Edmund Bell enformed the Companie that a great part of the land lying in Upwell is cut away in making of Bedford River and the new Owze, for which hee demands after the rate of fiftie shillinges an acres, it is ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe forthwith goe upon the place and survey how much land is so cutt away, and thereupon certifie the Company to intent satisfaction may bee made

25/02/54 1 Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Mr Bland, John Fountayne Esqr, William Goffe Esqr, John Fryer Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr

25/02/54 2 Ordered that Mr Gabrielle Ellyott for and on the behalfe of the Companie of Adventurers for dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes bee hereby appointed to survey the land at Warboys and prosecute the order of the Lord Comissioners touching the same made in the Middle Temple Hall 22nd February instant.

25/02/54 3 For ordering and determyninge all differences depending betweene the Companie of Adventurers and the townes of Cottenham, Willingham and Waterbeach, it is ordered that Robert Castell Esqr bee desired to appointe a tyme and place of meetinge under his hand in writinge which is as followeth

In pursuance of a comission under the great seale of England to mee directed for

ending and determyninge all differences dependinge between the right honorable Companie of Adventurers and the townes of Willingham, Cottenham and Waterbeach, I doe appointe for the purpose aforesaid to meete at the signe of the White Hart in Elie on Monday the 3rd of Aprill next at two a clocke in the afternoone where all parties concerned are to attend and bee present with their witnesses, witnes my hand the 25th day of February 1653

Robert Castell

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| 25/02/54 | 4 | Ordered that 500 copies of the last order made in the Middle Temple Hall touching melioration bee forthwith printed, and Mr Marsham is desired to take care thereof |
| 27/02/54 | 1 | William Earle of Bedford, John Russell Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Alderman Alleyn, John Latch Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Comissioner Generall Whalley Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, William Goffe Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 27/02/54 | 2 | Ordered that noe sum or sums of mony for any part of the tax or taxes in arrere shall bee paid here in towne after the last daie of February instant but that all such sum or sums of mony are to bee paid into the hands of Mr George Dalton the receivor at his howse in Elie in pursuance of a former order of tax made by the Company. In the mean tyme, Mr Blanchards discharge shall bee sufficient to the parties that shall paie in any sum or sums of mony untill the 1st March next |
| 27/02/54 | 3 | Ordered that two letters now agreed unto bee written and sent one to Major Blake, another to Mr Welsh and Mr Ellyott, being instructions touchinge melioration |
| 27/02/54 | 4 | Ordered that Mr George Dalton the receivor forthwith issue out upon account unto Major Alexander Blake and Gabriell Ellyott the sum of thirty poundes a peece for the bringinge up of witnesses against 20th March next and to defrey their charges |
| 27/02/54 | 5 | Ordered that Commisary Generall Whalley and Mr Alderman Alleyn bee desired to speake with Mr Claphorne to know if hee will testifie his knowledge of the levell as it was in the 6th yeare of the late King, and in perticular what hee can say and depose touching the landes about Wicken, Swaffham, Burwell and Botisham, and likewise that Mr Bland doe the like unto Mr March and Mr Dereham. |
| 27/02/54 | 6 | [Page 143] Ordered that a letter bee sent to Mr Hamond to put of the session of sewers from the 9th March to the 1st Aprill next for some reasons best knowne to the Companie |
| 01/03/54 | 1 | Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Jnr Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Alderman Underwood, William Smith, William Crane Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden |
| 01/03/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard bee desired to pay unto Mr John Hopkinson, clarke of the Companie, the sum of six poundes for and towards the charges and expences in cominge up to towne with the records and writings of the Companie for which this shall bee his discharge |
| 03/03/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Henley Esqr, John Bridges Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Alderman Gale, Cornelius Vermuyden, Sir Edward Partherich, John Marsham, John Fountayne Esqr, William Smith Esqr |
| 03/03/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired forthwith to come up to towne against Tuesday at night next. In the meane tyme, the clarke is to take care that a letter bee written |

and sent by an expresse at the Companies charge, and Mr Blanchard is to issue out money to defray the charge thereof out of what hee hath received for the use of the Company.

- 06/03/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Bland, Alderman Underwood, William Smith Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Richard Blackwall Esqr
- 06/03/54 2 Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe with all convenient speed attend Mr Fountayne with the draft of a conveyance this daie delivered into the Companie by Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr and know his opinion thereupon
- 08/03/54 1 William Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr THomas Bland, William Say Esqr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Henely Snr Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Hnery Henne esqr, Mr Lake, Mr Bradley, Mr Dr Fryer
- 08/03/54 2 Ordered that the Earle of Bedford, Edward Russell and Mr Castell bee forthwith desired to seale a lease of the 500 acres in Holme Fenne to Mr Fountayne for and on the behalfe of the Company, to the intent of procuring him to sue out a writt of partition touching the same
- 09/03/54 1 Richard Gorges Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Henry Henne Esqr, Mr Alexander Jones
- 09/03/54 2 **[Page 144]** Ordered that as soone as the sum of twenty poundes, or so much as is due accordinge to contracte, shall bee paid by the Companie of Adventurers unto William Baxter for making and settinge downe of the sasse below Littleport, Sir Edward Partherich, his heires and assigned shall, and will for ever after, mainteyne the same at his owne cost and charge from tyme to tyme, and hee doth hereby agree to free and discharge the Companie of Adventurers from all future charge touching the said sasse, witnes his hand.
- Edward Partherich
- 10/03/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Henley Esqr, William Say Esqr, Alderman Underwood, John Trafford Esqr, Commisary Generall Whalley, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Mr Tymothy Neale, Mr Thomas Bland
- 10/03/54 2 Ordered that a letter be sent to Mr Moore the surveyour by consent of Mr Fountayne and Mr Henley as followeth

I am comanded by the Companie to signifie unto you that, out of the 663 acres of Glatton and Holme Fenne layinge out of the wash, you are to sett out indifferently to Mr Henley 463 acres and the other 200 acres for the Companies use. In this setting out, you are to take care that there bee convenient wayes to Mr Henleyes and the Companies that they may not trespas each other and lay the Companies 200 acres together. And Mr Henley, enforminge the Companie that hee hath built upon the said 663 acres, you are to take care that, if without prejudice to the Companie it may bee done, you sett out Mr Henleyes 463 acres in that part where hee hath built that hee may enjoy the benefit of his buyldinge. You are desired to speede this, Mr Henley and Mr Fountayne (to whome the Companie have lett the said 200 acres) havinge agreed to you setting out the said land.

John Fontayne

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| 11/03/54 | 1 | Ordered that a draft of a deede, now produced by Mr Vermuyden, bee forthwith engrossed and sent away by messenger to bee provided by the clarke of the Companie at Mr Vermuydens charge and sent to Mr Crane and the clarke by letter to desire him to seale the same, and deliver it into the handes of the messenger as an escroll, and to bee his deede in case Sir Cornelius Vermuyden or any by his appointment within 7 days next after the sealing the said deede, shall pay to the Earle of Bedford and his Participants the whole mony due and payable for the 5th lott by the said Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, and in default of such payment the said delivery to bee void. |
| 15/03/54 | 1 | [Page 145] Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, Cornelius Vermuyden, John Trafford Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 15/03/54 | 2 | Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Hamond for the speedy repaying of the banckes on the south side Bedford River, in perticuler of the south bancke of Brandon River. |
| 18/03/54 | 1 | William Earle of Bedford, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Richard Girges Esqr, Alexander Blake Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland, William Adams Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr |
| 18/03/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Vermuyden bee desired to goe to Worcester howse and bespeake a copie of the survey of Porland against the afternoon, and Mr Bland the sollicitor is to pay the charges thereof |
| 18/03/54 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee forthwith desired to issue unto Thomas Bland sollicitor to the Companie the some of twenty pounds upon accoumpt, taking his receipt and placing the same to accoumpt |
| 18/03/54 | 4 | To the petition of Mr Richard Woodward, the Companie retorne the answer that in regard Bipps Dike bancke belongs to Coldham, Needham and Planfield, and that Mr Balsham, Mr Dymond, Mr Fincham and the petitioner are the principally concerned in repayringe of the said bancke, and the same but twenty poundes a yeare, the Companie are not willinge to have any publique contest with them but doe declare that if they will appointe one, the Companie will appointe another that may accommodate busines in a friendly manner |
| 20/03/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland, Alexander Blake Esqr, John Trenchard Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Culpeper, William Smith Esqr, Richard Blackwall Esqr |
| 20/03/54 | 2 | Touchinge the recompence demanded by William Earle of Bedfords Participants and Adventurers out of Low Fenn, conteyning, by estimation, 600 acres heretofore belonginge to Renolphus Bell Esquire and now claymed by Comissary Generall Staynes, it is ordered by and with the consent of the said Comissary Generall Staynes, under his hand, and the said Earles Participants and Adventurers, that the consideration thereof bee referred to John Trenchard Esqr to heare and finally determyn the same, and what the said John Trenchard shall sett downe and order therein is, by the like consent, hereby ordered and adjudged to stand and bee performed to all intents and purposes whatsoever |
| 20/03/54 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard bee hereby authorized and desired to receive of, |

and from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden knight, or any for him, the sum of nyne hundred seaventy five poundes, that is to say £775 upon the finall determynation of **[Page 146]** John Fountayne Esqr touchinge the 5th lott, and £200 for the last tax of 1s an acre for the said 5th lott and the said Mr Blanchards acquittance shall bee a sufficient discharge, and, upon payment of the said £775, the clarke is to deliver up the assurance of the said 5th lott.

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| 20/03/54 | 4 | Ordered that out of the sum of £775 this day ordered to bee paid to Mr Robert Blanchard for the use of the Company, the said Mr Blanchard is to pay unto Robert Henley Snr Esqr the sum of £330.10, and, of the said Mr Henley Snr Esqr, the sum of £330.10.00, the same Mr Henley sealing the releases to the Company and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden accordinge to the finall determynation of John Fountayne Esqr. |
| 20/03/54 p.m. | 1 | Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Thomas Hamson Esqr, Alderman Gale, Robert Hampson Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 20/03/54 p.m. | 2 | Ordered that the witnesses lately come to towne about the melioration doe forthwith repayre downe again to there severall habitations untill they shall receive new sumons from the Companie |
| 21/03/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Alexander Blake Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 21/03/54 | 2 | Ordered that the Crosse of Willows under Brother howse bancke bee mainteyned and preserved at the Compaines charge, and the dam at the south ende of Crowland to bee made five foote high from old South Eau Bancke crosse the new river called Southea, referred whole to the conservators. |
| 21/03/54 | 3 | Ordered that the ende of the bancke next Peakirke bee repayed |
| 21/03/54 | 4 | That the high wayes may have a marke at every 100 poles referred also to the conservator. |
| 21/03/54 | 5 | Upon readinge of a bill now produced by Mr Battison and Mr Pawlett, it is ordered that the sum of fiftie shillinges bee forthwith paid unto them by Mr Dalton or, in his absence, by Mr Blanchard, hee or they takinge theire, or eyther of theire, receipts and placing the sum to account. |
| 21/03/54 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Fountayne bee desired to goe downe to Elie and take upon him the management of the Companies busines in relation to the referencees appointed. |
| 21/03/54 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Thomas Browne, the former sollicitor to the Companie, bee desired to forthwith deliver unto the clarke of the Companie all such deedes, writings and evidences and all such hand bills and papers whatsoever as hee hath in his custody touchinge or concerninge the Companie of Adventurers, and schedules are to bee made accordingly |
| 21/03/54 | 8 | Ordered that Mr Goodson, Mr Welsh and Mr Elliott shall have each of them thirty shillinge a peece paid unto them by the expenditor towards theire charges and expences in cominge up to towne upon the service of the Companie |
| 22/03/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford. Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Smith Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Richard Blackwall Esqr, Clement Oxenbridge Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Dr Fryer, William Weston Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |

22/03/54	2	[Page 147] Upon the proposition now this daie delivered in to the Companie in writinge by Captain Andrewes on the behalfe of Colonell Cromwell, touchinge wayes and bridges, it is referred to Richard Gorges Esqr and the conservator of that levell to conferre with Colonell Cromwell and consider what is fitt to bee done by the Companie and thereupon to certifie to the Companie
22/03/54	3	Ordered that the clarke of the Companie doe forthwith wayte upon Mr Vermuyden to Mr Jessop to desire him to seale the conveyance of the 5th lott allready sealed by Mr Crane, Mr Vermuyden havinge paid the sum of £975 in pursuance of the order of the Companie
23/03/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Dr Fryer Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, John Trenchard Esqr, William Weston Esqr, William Smith Esqr, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland
23/03/54	2	Ordered that the sum of £330.10.00 bee forthwith tendered unto Mr Henley by Mr Blanchard and the clarke of the Companie, and that they request him at that tyme to seale and deliver a release to the Company touching the 5th lott. And it is further ordered that if the said Mr Henley hath any exception to make against the finall determination of John Fountayne Esqr that hee bee desired to sett the same downe in writing, which is to bee taken into consideration in the presence of Mr Fountayne and the Committee formerly appointed.
23/03/54	3	Memorand. In pursuance of the order made this day, a tender was made unto Mr Henley of the sum of £330.10.00 and the interest for a day beinge 1s 1d in regard Sir Cornelius Vermuyden paid in his money yesterday, as also a release to bee sealed by the said Mr Henley in pursuance of the finall determuation of John Fountayne Esqr touchinge or concerning the 5th lott unto the right honorable William Earle of Bedford and his Participants, but hee refused to accept the said sum or seale the said release, alledginge that the order of refference touching the 5th lott was not pursued.
23/03/54	4	Memorand. Also this day the Companie did declare to Mr Henley that they were ready to seale a tripartite indenture now produced touching the 2000 acres parcell of the 2500 acres, if hee did request the same, which hee also refused
23/03/54	5	Ordered that the clarke of the Companie doe carry downe all the materiall deedes and writings of the Companie to Elie against the meetinge there 1st Aprill next, espetially touchinge the townes of Cottenham, Willingham, Waterbeach and Wellney, and hee is to advise with Mr Bland touchinge the same.
23/03/54	6	Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe with all convenient speede sett downe what sums of mony hee hath received of Mr Jessop or any other before hee was receivor to the tax in August last inclusive, and also another account from that tyme to bee made both distincte, and that Mr Dalton doe carry downe with him to Elie all bookes of accounts and all papers, conceive accoumpts and that are in his custody.
27/03/54	1	William Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Trenchard Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Hampson Esqr, William Weston Esqr
27/03/54	2	[Page 148] Ordered that the Companie of Adventurers doe adjourne to meete at the signe of the White Hart in Elie on Friday, being the 31st of March instant at two a clocke in the afternoone
31/03/54	1	Att the signe of the White Hart in Elie

John Fountayne Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Francis Underwood Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr

- 31/03/54 2 The said Adventurers and Participants doe adjourne to meete forthwith att the signe of the Bell in Elie
- 31/03/54 3 John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Francis Underwood Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Thomas Bland Esqr
- 31/03/54 4 Whereas Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour hath undertaken and doth promise to present to the Companie one generall complete map of the whole levell of the Fennes, with the Adventurer land and lott devidions, att or before Michalmas next and hath also undertaken to perfecte other perticuler mappes which hee will present to the Companie in velome, and also a booke in velome conteyninge the Adventurer land and the names of every perticuler Adventurer and Participant, it is thereupon ordered that hee shall bee allowed the charge of the velome and hee shall have liberty (after the same are done) to print all or any part of the said mappes and to dispose of the same to his best profit and advantage
- 01/04/54 1 Att the signe of the Bell in Elie
- John Fountayne Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Robert Hampson Snr Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland, Sir Edward Partherich, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Francis Underwood Esqr, Marke Bradley gent
- 01/04/54 2 Ordered that the Companie doe hereby adjourne their meetings att London from the usuall place to Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court on the backe side of St Clements Chuch and doe agree to meete their on Tuesday the 11th of Aprill instant att two a clocke in the afternoone, and the clarke of the Company is to bringe up all writings, records and evidences of the Companie to the place aforesaid.
- 01/04/54 3 Ordered that Mr Dalton, the receivor, doe forthwith bring his bookes of accounts to some of the members of the Companie now att the Bell in Elie to the intent they may view and peruse the same.
- 03/04/54 1 **[Page 149]** Sir Edward Partherich, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Sam Fortrey Esqr, John Trenchard Esqr, William Say Esqr, Mr Bradley, Mr Thomas Bland
- 03/04/54 2 Upon assurance made to the fower trustees and their heires from Robert Croxon, Myles Carter and Thomas Godfrey of Mepall of 8 acres 2 rods 31 perches of land cutt away and prejudiced by new Bedford bancke, the receivor is to pay unto them the sum of fowerteene poundes in full satisfaction, and Mr Hamond desired to take care to have the said assurance executed
- 04/04/54 1 Att the White Hart in Elie
- John Fountayne, William Crane Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Alexamder Blake Esqr, Samuell Fortry Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland
- 04/04/54 2 Upon a motion this day made to the Companie by Mr Heveringham and Mr Pratt, it is ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired with all convenient speede to call to his asistance Mr Jonas Moore, the surveyour, who are both requested to goe to the landes taken out of Hockwold and Wilton and take a view thereof and upon the place

consider where to have two severall waies layd out for the accomodation of each of the said parties, and in the meane time all parties concerned in the said landes are to have convenient notice of this order, and Mr Hamond and Mr Moore are also further ordered to take care of a way to bee made for the accomodation of the Adventurers landes in Feltwell.

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| 04/04/54 p.m. | 1 | William Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, John Trenchard Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Alexander Blake Esqr, Francis Underwood Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr |
| 04/0/54 p.m. | 2 | The said Adventurers and Participants doe adjourne to meete againe tomorrow at the signe of the White Hart in Elie |
| 05/04/54 | 1 | <p>[Page 150] Att the White Hart Elie</p> <p>Earle of Bedford, William Crane Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, John Trenchard Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Robert Castell Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, Alexander Blake Esqr, Samuell Fortrey Esqr, Francis Underwood Esqr, Mr Bradlet, Mr Bland</p> |
| 05/04/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Hamond, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Clampe and all other the Companies officers who have any releases, writings, bonds or evidences in theire handes that concerne the Companie, bee hereby desired to deliver up the same to Mr Thomas Bland the sollicitor to the Company, and inventories thereof are to bee made accordingly |
| 05/04/54 | 3 | Ordered that if any Adventurer or Participant shall bee sued, molested or troubled for non payment of tithes, other then such tithes as have byn paid seaven years before the improvements of the Adventurer landes, shall and may apply themselves unto Mr Bland the sollicitor to the Companie, who is hereby authorized on the behalfe of the Companie to defend the said suytes and defrey the charge thereof out of the generall stocke of the Companie |
| 05/04/54 | 4 | Whereas the right honorable Earle of Bedford, on the behalfe of his tennants, acquainted the Companie that whereas they usually had a liberty, as usually they had still with theire carts, horses and carriages to passe over Holland Bancke and so to Wisbich with theire corne, graine and other comodities, but it beinge informed that the inhabitants of Holland have lately stopped up the said way and passage and have also layd certaine tonnells underneath the said bancke to draw away the water from Thorney grownde, and it beinge also informed that Colonell Walton hath also stopped up the way over Southea to Crowland from Thorney to the great prejudice of his Lordshippes tennants, it is ordered that Major Alexander Bake bee desired to have some conference with the said inhabitants of Holland touchinge the said prejudice, as also to speake with Colonell Walton touchinge the way to Crowland stopped up by him, and to determyn the differences if hee can or otherwise certifie the Companie what hee thinke fitt for them to doe therein |
| 05/04/54 | 5 | Whereas it was this day enformed by Mr Bradley that there is a high way lockspitted out through his severall growndes at Wood Fen in Benwicke not yet diked out, by meanes whereof he had susteyned great prejudice, it is ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour bee hereby desired to goe upon the place and take order for the present diking out of the said way and to consider what quantity of grownd is taken out by the said way and what damage Mr Bradley hath susteyned thereby to the intent he may receive satisfaction accordingly, whereof hee is to give the Companie an account with all convenient speede. |

05/04/54	6	Ordered that Mr Hamond doe give order forthwith to take up the dike all along Whelpmore by the river side, and the same being taken up to give order all for payment thereof
05/04/54	1	Att the White hart in Elie Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Mr Goascoigne, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Crane, Mr Bland
05/04/54	2	The Companie accordinge to a former order doe adjourne to meete att Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court the 11th Aprill instant at 2 a clocke in the afternoone
11/04/54	1	[Page 151] Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court Richard Gorges Esqr, William Crane, John Fountayne Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Mr Bradley
11/04/54	2	Ordered that a letter bee written to the conservators to this effect, that the Companie desire them to take notice of theire monthly meetings accordinge to theire former instructions, and with all to lett them know that noe one conservator within his respective levell should designe or contracte for any worke where the charge will exceede £100, unles it bee by order of the Companie or by agreement of the conservator at the monthly meetings
11/04/54	3	Ordered that the Companie doe meete at Mr Fountaynes howse as aforesaid every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at fower a clocke in the afternoone
12/04/54	1	Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, William Crane Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland
12/04/54	2	Ordered that Mr Moore, the surveyour doe, forthwith goe to Warboys Fenne and admeasure the 500 acres on Warboys and in the 14th lott, and take care that if it bee not allready devided from the Country, to see it speedily done and give the Companie account thereof
14/04/54	1	John Marsham Esqr, William Crane Esqr, William Weston Esqr, John Carill Esqr, John Fryer Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Mr Robert Henley jn, Mr Thomas Bland
14/04/54	2	Upon readinge a letter from Mr Dalton, it is resolved upon the question that an answer bee forthwith written unto him to this effecte that the Companie desire him to send up an exacte and perfecte account, as hee was demanded at Elie at the Companies last meeting there, and that, untill the said account is sent up to the Companie, hee is not to draw any money from Mr Blanchard by bills of exchange
14/04/54	3	Whereas it was enformed that William Adams Esqr hath £8 due unto him for rent from Mr Gardner and that the Companie are indebted unto the said Gardner for worke done by him, the sum of £40 or there abouts, it is ordered that Mr Dalton the expeditor doe forbear to pay unto the said Gardner the money due to him from the Companie, and in the meane tyme the said Gardner is to shew cause to the Companie why Mr Adams shall not have that money paid unto him in part of his rent.
14/04/54	4	Upon readinge a draft of a warrant for the receivor to sequester the defaulters landes, it is ordered that the clarke doe forthwith engrosse the same and annexe a schedule

there unto of all defaulters landes in arrere.

- 14/04/54 5 **[Page 152]** Ordered that a letter bee written to Colonell Robert Castell as followeth viz
- Honoured Sir - I am comanded by the Companie of Adventurers to lett you know that, taking notice of your letter communicated unto them by Mr Henley in Friday last, are very sensible of your great trouble, care and prudence in the busines referred unto you and doe retorne theire harty thanks, relying upon your wisdom and integrity to make a finall composure of those differences. They are very apprehensive of the clamour of those people with whome you hath to deal, and the freeinge of the Company from them (by your meanes) will put a farre greater engagement upon the Companie to you. They much approve of the way, propounded by you, to quiett them by leasinge your Adventurer landes for 7 yeares at a reasonable rent, rather then changing or altering proportions, in regard the latter would not onely bee very troublesome and hazardous but bee an evill president and occasion many new complaintts and altercations to the great charge of the Companie in making new devisions and prevent the perticuler Adventurers from disposing of theire proportions, but because that way of leasinge doth concerne the perticuler Adventurers, they have comanded mee to acquainte them with the proposition which I have accordingly done that they may apply themselves to you. For Mr Henley who is concerned as to [] acres in Waterbeach Fen, hee, for his part, saith that although hee hath lett his lands there for 11 yeares, yet, if the rest of the Adventurers will consent and to quiett the Country, hee is willinge they shall have it att ten shillings an acre yearley for 7 yeares and will procure his present tennants to quit the bargaine. Touchinge the composure of those of Willingham amongst themselves, the Company apprehend that if, upon your hearing of those concerned in the landes which are to contribute anew, you shall finde cause to take a proportion from them in case of the towne, and that the perticuler Adventurers shall rest satisfied with that new proportion in lieu of what is allready sett out there to them, it will prove a happy expedient to reconcile that to the satisfaction of all parties. This is all I have in comand from the Companie at present and which tender of my best service and respecte remayne
- 14/04/54 6 A letter likewise to your parties concerned to apply themselves to Colonell Castell.
- Ordered that Mr Alderman Allyen, Mr Alderman Titchborne, Mr Alderman Underwood and Mr Oxenbridge, or any two or more of them, be desired to make an addres to the Committee of the Army to endeavour that the 95000 acres of Adventurers land may bee taxed by itselfe and to endeavour that the tax may not exceede eight score poundes a month when the tax of the nation comes to £120000 a month, and to raise it or abate it pro rata, and Mr Bland is desired to wayte upon them and signifie the Companies reasons.
- 14/04/54 7 Ordered that Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill and Mr Marsham or any two of them bee hereby desired to attend Mr Peters and conferre with him, touchinge the sending of godly ministers for preachinge of the gospell in the Great Levell of the Fennes and for obteyninge an order for that purpose for the exemption of the 95000 acres from the payment of the tithes in lieu of what shall bee proposed.
- 17/04/54 8 John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Mr Bland, Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Alderman Underwood
- 17/04/54 9 Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Dalton signifyinge that whereas it was the intent of the Companie to have sent him a warrant to distryene for the arreres of

taxes with a blank schedule thereunto annexed, they now thinke fitt to respitt the same untill hee sends up a true paper of all such as are in arrere to the intent theire respective names may bee entered into the schedule before the warrant bee sealed.

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| 21/04/54 | 1 | [Page 153] William Crane Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Samuella Fortrey Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, Alderman Underwood, John Marsham Esqr, Robert Staunton Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 21/04/54 | 2 | Upon reading of two letters from Mr Hamond touchinge a destresse taken at Swaffham, ordered that Mr Bland doe retorne answer to Mr Hamond that hee take care therewith <i>mee an accedas ad carcam</i> brought to receive it up to towne, and that he also put Mr Hamond in mynde of procuring witnesse for Wicken and against the Wednesay next after the terme. |
| 21/04/54 | 3 | Ordered that letters bee written to the severall conservators that they would in theire respective levells take order that all the bridges may bee surveyed and, where they find any defecte there, to see a supply made by repaying and substantially amendinge the same with gault, sedge and gravell. |
| 21/04/54 | 4 | Ordered that as many of the Companie as are now in towne bee requested to meete here on Monday next at 4 a clocke in the afternoone touchinge urgent occasions of the Companie |
| 24/04/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Staunton Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, William Weston Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Henry Henne Esqr, Robert Gale Esqr, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, Samuella Fortrey Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, John Fryer Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |
| 24/04/54 | 2 | Ordered that all others of the Companie now in towne bee desired to meete on Friday next at 3 a clocke in the afternoone, perticularly to take into consideration Sir Cornelius Vermuydens paper delivered into the Companie this day being the state of the South Levell and Middle Levell and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden himselfe is desired them to bee present. |
| 24/04/54 | 3 | A petition to his Highnes the Lord Protector this day read over touchinge tithes, in lieu whereof the Companie desire to pay an annuall sum of money, which being taken into consideration after a longe debate, these questions following were put. |
| | | 1 Whether or noe the 95000 acres bee propounded to the state to bee exempted from the payment of tithes for 7 yeares or any other tyme. Resolved in the negative. |
| | | 2 Another question beinge put whether or noe the Companie shall propound to the state £1000 a yeare in lieu of tithes for the 95000 acres. It was resolved in the affirmative. |
| | | 3 Resolved upon the question that the last clause in the said petition for tithes now read over bee propounded as part of the petition to bee presented to his Highnes and Councill. |
| 26/04/54 | 1 | [Page 154] Sir Gilbert Gerard, John Marsham Esqr, John Bridges Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr Bradley, Richard Gorges Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Samuella Fortrey Esqr, William Crane Esqr, John Fryer Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland |

26/04/54	2	Touching the distress lately taken at Swaffam and after replies by the Country and rescous made, ordered that Mr Bland the solicitor doe attend Mr Serpeant Earle with the certificates sent up by Mr Dalton and draw up the case and receive his advice there upon.
26/04/54	3	Ordered that Mr Fortrey bee desired to attend Colonell Castell and make it his request on the behalfe of the Companie that hee would be pleased to make his small determination in writinge upon the order of the refference touchinge the townes of Cottenham, Willingham and Waterbeach, according as hee in justice shall thinke fitt with all possible expedition.
28/04/54	1	Mr John Hallett, Mr Thomas Bland, Mr Samuell, William Crane Esqr, William Weston Esqr, Mr Marsham, Earle of Bedford, John Russell Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Fountayne, Mr Hamond, Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Mr Bradley, Mr Culpeper, Mr Dr Fryer, Aldermant Underwood, Mr Gorges, Mr William Mainston, Mr Woodward, William Harrington
28/04/54	2	Upon reading of a paper from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden touching the state of the South and Middle levell, it is ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee present when the said paper is taken to consideration
28/04/54	3	The petition touchinge tithes read over and againe resumed A question, beinge put whether or not the said petition shall bee engrossed and which the amendments now read over, presented to his Highnes the Lord Protector and Councell, resolved in the affirmative
28/04/54	4	Ordered that Mr Fountayne, Alderman Underwood, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Crane, Sir Edward Partherich and Mr William Mainston, or any two or more of them, bee desired to prosecute the busines touchinge tithes, and Mr Bland the solicitor is forthwith to attend Mr Secretary Thurloe with the said petition and, when hee hath presented the same, to give notice from tyme to tyme to the said committee and when the same is referred to the intent they may attend about the same
28/04/54	5	Ordered that Mr Bland the solicitor doe forthwith take care that severall copies of a paper bee now read over to the Companie, beinge some propositions touchinge assessments to the Comon Wealth hee made, and that the same may bee presented to the committee formerly appointed touchinge assessments.
28/04/54	6	Upon reading of a letter received from Jonas Moore, the surveyour, together with a mappe of Holme Fen there enclosed, it is ordered upon request made by Mr Henley, now present, that hee have a view of the same, to bee retorned againe on Monday next with such his exceptions against the same as hee shall thinke fitt.
28/04/54	7	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour that hee forthwith make a survey of the land belonginge to Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges in the 14th lott and dike it out from the Country, and hee is to shew cause why, after severall orders sent downe unto him which hee has received, hee hath not yet done. It is expressed that hee should retorne his answer to the Companie by the next opportunity in regard they have lost the profitt of their land all this tyme through his neglecte.
28/04/54	8	[Page 155] Touchinge the busines concerninge Generall Fleetewoods land in Methwold, it is ordered that the same bee retorned to the consideration of Mr Hamond and Mr Jonas Moore to heare and determyne and accomodate the same,

otherwise to certifie the Companie

- 28/04/54 9 Ordered that Mr Jonas Moore, Gabriell Ellyott or eyther of them doe take care that the 200 acres in the 13th lott, part of Mereham, Weston and Stoake, belonging to Mr Crane or Mr Henley, bee (if it bee not yet done) devided and diked of from the Country, and they, or eyther of them, are to certifie to the Companie an account of theire proceedings forthwith
- 28/04/54 10 Ordered that Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges busines touching theire land in Over bee taken into consideration on Monday next.
- 28/04/54 11 Ordered that Mr Dalton, Jonas Moore and Mr Thomas Moore doe, with all convenient speede, enter upon such of the Adventurer land as the Country doe keepe the possession of from the Adventurers, and take distresses whereby they finde the same and impound them untill they bee sett att liberty by due course of law. And Mr Hamond is hereby desired to write a letter of instructions touchinge the same.
- 01/05/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Bridges, Mr Samuell Jnr, Mr Hamond, Mr William Crane, Mr Fountayne, Mr William Weston, Mr Carill, Mr Culpeper, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Robert Henley Snr, Mr Bland
- 01/05/54 2 Ordered that a letter bee written to Major Alexander Blake that hee bee desired to take care that the cutts that are made from the Southea to the tonnells on the southern banke to carry water into Holland bee stopt upon some place within the levell nere the Southea.
- 03/05/54 1 Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, William Crane Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland, John Marsham Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Alderman Gale, Mr Bridges
- 03/05/54 2 Ordered that Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Alderman Allyen, Mr Gale, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marsham, Mr Bridges, or any two or more of them, bee desired to receave Mr Jessops bookes of account which concerne the Companie, and to examyn and state the same, and afterwards make theire report to the Companie
- 03/05/54 3 Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe prepare an exact account and bring up the same to towne against Whitsen weeke next, and then present it to the committee this day named to receive accounts, and a letter is forthwith to bee written to him accordingly.
- 03/05/54 4 Whereas Mr Alderman Gale acquainted the Companie that some inhabitants of the towne of Littleport have offered to dike out 16 acres or thereabouts out of his proportion of 461 acres allotted to him in Whelpmore in the 6th lott, upon the pretence that there is 26 acres or thereabout above the said 461 acres, upon which hee desires the direction of the Companie, whereupon it is ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe forthwith goe upon the place and admeasure the said land and certifie the matter of facte to the Companie with all speede. In the meane tyme, they agree that the possession of the said 461 acres shall bee and maynteyned at the publique charge of the Companie as other landes.
- 03/05/54 5 **[Page 156]** Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee hereby desired to paie unto John Hopkinson Esqr or his assigned the sum of one hundred thirty seven poundes, ten shillings for which hee is to give a bill to pay so much att Cambridge to Mr George Dalton the receivor, and sixtie poundes for which hee is to give a bill to pay the like sum unto the said Mr Dalton att Old Hurst by St Ives Huntingdonshire.

- 03/05/54 6 Ordered that the clarke hence forward take care that every perticuler Adventurer land bee entered under his hand standing in the tax roll, and where any Adventurer makes sale of his land, there to make an alteration accordingly in the margent of the said roll, to the intent at the first view the Companie may know whome every parcell of land in each lott respectively belongeth.
- 03/05/54 7 Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Moore the surveyour to sett out the 115 acres in Ladies Fenn B in the 3rd lott belonging to Mr Edward Russell, accordinge to former order and direction of the Companie, and that there may bee noe delay therein.
- 03/05/54 8 Upon Mr Hamonds mention on the behalfe of Mr Clapthorne to have satisfaction for damages pretended done by the Companie, in regard Mr Hamond could not mention the perticulers of the demands, it is ordered that if Mr Clapthorne will sett downe in writinge the perticulers of his demandes, the Companie will give such answer as shall bee reasonable.
- 03/05/54 9 Ordered that Mr Blanchard doe forthwith issue out upon account unto Mr Thomas Bland the sollicitor of the Company the sum of thyrtye poundes, taking his receipt and placing it to account.
- 05/05/54 1 Upon readinge an order of the Companie of 14th April last, touchinge a stop of mony to bee made which was to bee paid to Mr Gardner, and upon reading a certificate under the handes of Mr Andrewes of Wisbich certifyinge that the mony stop was due to him, it is ordered that Mr Doctor Fryer bee desired to attend Mr Adams (who is a partie concerned) with the said certificate, who is desired to give him answer on Monday next to the Companie why the mony to the said Gardner and now stopt ought to bee paid unto him.
- 05/05/54 2 Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor forthwith attend Comissary Generall Whalley with the letter from Mr Thompson touchinge the throwinge in of Willingham dikes, and that hee would make it his request unto him on the behalfe of the Company to remove the force about Willingham by appointinge a guard of horse quarter thereabouts, and Mr Hamond is also desired to take care distresses may bee taken in the name of the 4 trustees for the damages the Companie have received thereby.
- 05/05/54 3 Upon the request of Mr Cardew, now present, made to the Companie to accept of his tax in arrere for his 100 acres in the 8th lott due in February last and to free him from sequestration and distres for the same, hee offeringe to pay £10 towards the charges of sequestration and also to pay downe the tax of £20 an acre due in May instant and June next for or in respecte of his said 100 acres in the 8th lott, it is ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard doe accept of and receive the sum for the use of the Company, giving him an acquittance accordingly which shall bee a sufficient discharge.
- 05/05/54 4 **[Page 157]** Upon reading Mr Clapthornes paper of demands, the Companie, beinge enformed that the north bancke and dreynes are lockspitted and designed to bee cutt before the 6th of July 1650 and are not satisfied that any landes of Mr Clapthorne have byn cut since that tyme, and therefore it is ordered that Major Blake and Mr Jonas Moore bee desired to examyn and certifie the Companie what quantity of land it was of Mr Clapthornes which was cut before the 6th of July 1650 for which the £500 was paid him and what land hath byn cutt since, and Mr Tench is to attend them with copies of the contracts of the north bancke, and this is to bee done with all expedition.

05/05/54	5	Ordered that Mr Tench doe forthwith repayre to Colonell Underwood and demand of him all such releases. Any instances, deedes and writings for purchase of landes by the Company as are in his custody or possession, and give him an acquittance for the same, which shall bee a sufficient discharge to the Colonell Underwood, and, after hee hath received the same, to send them up to the Company by some trusty messenger with all care and expedition.
08/05/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Robert Henley Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Hallett, Mr Carill, Sir Edward Partherich, Robert Henley Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Robert Hampson Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr William Weston Esqr, Mr Bland
08/05/54	2	Ordered that the bond entered into by Mr Pierson of Willingham and others of that towne for security for the rent for a yeare for the Adventurer land, taken out of that towne accordinge to order of the Comissioners, bee forthwith put in sight by Mr Bland the sollicitor, and hee is to advise with Mr Jekill or Mr Atwood, too clarkes of the upper bench, whether, upon a writt of the upper bench or upon filinge an originall debt in the Court of Comon Please, it may bee brought to a tryall soonest to the intent that course may bee pursued.
08/05/54	3	Upon a certificate under the hand of Mr Robert Andrewes of Wisbich touchinge a sum of mony alledged to bee due unto him and claymed by William Adams Esquire as part of his rent due to him from Mr Gardner, the Companie retorne answer that at present they cannot doe anythinge thereupon untill they receive fuller prooffe and testimony that the letter of Attorney alledged by Mr Thomas Holman was made and executed and untill they speake with Mr Dalton about the same.
08/05/54	3	Upon readinge a letter from Mr Dalton of the second of May instant, ordered that the clarke of the Company doe first informe himselfe what mony of the last tax remaynes in the hands of Mr Blanchard the goldsmith, and if hee findes there is a considerable sum of mony to supply the Companies want in the Country then to advertize Mr Dalton of it forthwith to the intent the bills allready charged may bee paid and such others as hee shall charge on him, provided that Mr Blanchard deteyne in his handes the some of £100 for the use of the Companie here in towne.
08/05/54	4	Ordered that Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee desired to meete the Companie on Friday next to debate and consider of the perticuler in writinge delivered in by him of the state of the levell as it now stands.
08/05/54	5	Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Carill, Mr Hamond and Mr Crane, or any two of more of them, bee desired to meete tomorrow in the afternoone about two a clocke and heare what the witnessess can severally depose against the meetinge on Thursday next before the Comissioners
08/05/54	6	Ordered that the devision of Holme Fen, now read over, stand of force and bee effectuall unles Mr Henley shew cause to the contrary on Friday next.
09/05/54	1	Richard Gorges Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Mr Thomas Bland, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr
09/05/54	2	Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard doe forthwith issue out unto Mr George Barnes, upon accoumpt towards the charges of witnesses now lately come to towne upon the service of the Companie, the sum of ten poundes, taking the receipt and placing it to account

12/05/54	1	[Page 158] Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Comissary Generall Whalley, John Fountayne Esqr, John Trafford Esqr, B.Arthur Esqr, Mr Bradley, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland
12/05/54	2	in pursuance of the request made unto Mr Trafford the 14th Aprill last, hee acquainted the Companie that hee had spoken with the inhabitants of the north side of Wisbich touchinge the charge of erectinge a new sluice on the new Sheyre Dreyne who consented to contribute a third part towards the charge thereof, and to make a rate for the sluice, and to advance the mony before hand, whereupon it is ordered that the said sluice bee forthwith made, which Sir Cornelius Vermuyden now present doth estimate will amount unto nyne hundred poundes. and it is further ordered that Mr Trafford bee desired to write a letter to the said inhabitants to provide the sum of £300 as a part towards the charge thereof.
12/05/54	3	The Companie, takeinge into consideration the respecte shewn unto them by Mr Thurloe as one of their treasurers and findinge his imployment so great that hee cannot attend the same, doe ease him of that trouble and doe hereby order that Mr Gorges and Mr Marsham bee desired to present him with a hundred poundes as a gratuity from the Companie
12/05/54	4	Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard doe forthwith issue out unto Mr Gorges and Mr Marsham the sum of a hundred poundes for the use of the Companie
15/05/54	1	Richard Gorges Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland
15/05/54	2	Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard forthwith issue out unto Mr Thomas Bland upon account the sum of twentie poundes taking his receipt and placing it to account
24/05/54	1	Richard Gorges Esqr, Mr Henley, Mr Bradley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland
24/05/54	2	Upon readinge a letter from Major Alexander Blake intymatinge that some of the inhabitants of Holland had lately cutt upp one of the dams lately made from the Southea to the tonnells at Southea, ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to him to make up the dam againe and appointe some persons to watch the same to the intent that offenders bee discovered
27/05/54	1	[Page 159] Mr Gorges, Mr Gale, Mr Fountayne, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley
27/05/54	2	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Jonas Moore in answer to his letter to this effect, that hee would procure petitions from the 4 townes hee mentioned in his letter to the intent the truth may appeare touchinge navigation, and to send up the same forthwith
02/06/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Hampson Snr, Mr Hampson jn, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland
02/06/54	2	Upon information made on the behalfe of Mr Heveringham and Mr Pratt that, notwithstandinge the order of the 4th Aprill last, the two severall wayes appointed to bee done for the accomodation of the said parties in Hockwold and Wilton are not yet made, it is ordered that Mr Hamond and Mr Jonas Moore, to whome the same was recommended, bee desired forthwith to shew cause why the same is not yet done.

02/06/54	3	Ordered that the right honorable Earle of Bedford shall bee att liberty to make and erecte a bridge over Goll Dike for his owne accomodation to his landes from Goll Dike to Murrow Plash, and his Lordshipp will be att charge and the future maintenace thereof
02/06/54	4	Ordered that Mr Fountayne bee reteyned of councell for the Companie att Worcester howse on Thursday next in the afternoone to prosecute the busines upon the order lately sent up by Mr Moore.
02/06/54	5	Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired to issue out upon account unto Mr Thomas Bland the sum of twelve poundes for the service of the Companie.
02/06/54	6	Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired to paie unto Mr Henley the sum of eight poundes which hee paid unto Mr Hatthorne the gravor for makinge the mapp in copper of the whole workes in the levell, and also the sum of nyne shillings which hee layd out for cedau charges goinge to the Lord Comissioner Witherington and other Comissioners
02/06/54	7	Ordered that Mr Jonas Moore shall bee at liberty to come up to towne to testifie as a witnes touchinge the busines of Cow Fenne before the Comissioners att their next meetinge in the Middle Temple Halls.
05/06/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marsham, Colonell Castell, Mr Carill, Mr Latch, Mr Trafford, Mr Crane, Mr Weston, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland, Mr Samuell Jones
05/06/54	2	[Page 160] Whereas Sir Edward Patherich knight, Robert Hampson and Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, by vertue of an order of the Companie of 28 November last, did take up £300 by bond for their present use of the Companie, whereupon they were to have repaid unto them from the expendor not onely the mony raised but also interest after the rate of six poundes percent to bee paid att six months ende, and whereas the tyme is expired on Wednesday next, it is ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired forthwith to pay the sum and take up and discharge the bond so entred into by them as aforesaid.
05/06/54	3	Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired to issue out unto Mr George Dalton for the use and service of the Company the sum of five hundred poundes, which sum hee is to take order may bee paid to the workemen in the Country.
07/06/54	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Marsham, Mr Latch, Mr Trafford, Mr Drewry
07/06/54	2	Upon reading Major Blakes letter with the enclosed information touching the breakinge up of the bridge over Bevills Leame between Whittlesey and Ramsey, it is ordered that a letter bee sent unto him to desire him to send up a more fuller information to the Companie touchinge the same, and that a dozen of the printed ordynances from the Lord Protector Cromwell bee dorthwith send unto him.
07/06/54	3	Ordered that the clarke of the Company doe with all convenient speede attend Comissary Generall Whalley and shew him Mr Hamonds letter with the enclosed from Mr Thomas Moore, touchinge the disturbance lately made att Brandon, Hockwold and Wilton and desire his assistance for suppressinge the disturbers there.
09/06/54	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Drewry, Mr Trafford, Mr Crane, Mr Marsham, Mr Holman, Mr Gascoigne, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Robert Castell, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Amdrew Mainston, Mr Bradley

09/06/54	2	Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond and Colonell Robert Castell bee desired to wayte upon my Lord Chiefe Justice St John and satisfie his Lordshipp touchinge the Great Levell of the Fennes and the proceedinges thereupon wherein att present his Lordshipp seemes to bee very much dysatisfyed, and they are afterwards desired to give the Companie an account thereof
09/06/54	3	Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Gale, Mr Marsham, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch or any two of more of them bee desired to state and audite Mr Daltons accounts, and with all convenient speede make theire report to the Companie how they finde the same, and are desired to meete on Monday next.
09/06/54	4	[Page 161] Ordered that it bee recomended to the care of Mr Trafford to provide a convenient chamber or chambers in the Temple for the meetings of the Companie, and any other of the Adventurers are desired to contribute theire assistance herein and make them report to the Companie forthwith
09/06/54	5	Petition of Elizabeth Norman widow reade over this daie touchinge satisfaction demanded in line of a piscary alledged to bee spoiled by the dreyninge, whereupon severall copies of court roll were produced to make out the petitioners tithe, but in regards Mr Hamond, havinge made some proposition to the petitioner and is now absent, the Companie respitt theire order thereupon untill the next weeke they speake with Mr Hamond.
09/06/54	6	Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired forthwith to repay unto Mr Goodson, who formerly advanced £100 accordinge to a proposition, by order of 28 November last, the said sum of £100, together with the interest due for the same after the rate of six poundes in the hundred, and in regard Mr Dalton hath paid the same to Mr Goodson, his acquaintance shall bee a sufficient discharge to the said Mr Blanchard.
09/06/54	7	Ordered that Mr Trafford, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley and Mr Latch, or any two or more of them, bee hereby desired to treat with Captain Fisher touchinge the layinge and settinge downe of a sluice at the Sheyre Dreyne and also touchinge all differences depending betweene the Companie of Adventurers and the towne and north side of Wisbich, and they are desired to ende and compose the said differences (if they can), otherwise report to the Company how they finde the same
12/06/54	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Latch, Mr Carill, Mr Marsham, Mr Bradley, Mr Trafford, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Gorges, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Gascoigne, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bland
12/06/54	2	Mr Trafford made report this day to the Companie upon the order made at the last meetinge that hee and Mr Henley, havinge had some conference with Mr Captain Fisher touchinge the sluice at the Sheyre Dreyne and hee offered on the behalfe of the towne and northside of Wisbech to contribute a third parte towards the charge thereof and that hee would bee very ready and willinge to meete with any of the Companie in order to the composinge all other differences accordinge to the said order
12/06/54	3	Whereas it appeared by Mr Jessops accoumpts, lately stated by the Comittee appointed for that purpose, that Mr Longe had over paid upon his account the sum of a hundred and fortie poundes, seaventeene shillinges and ten pence halfe penny, over and above his taxes, it is now therefore ordered that Mr Dalton shall allow of the said sum of a hundred and fortie poundes, seaventeene shillinges and ten pence halfe

penny upon his now account of taxes.

- 12/06/54 4 Ordered that Mr Trenchard bee added to the Committee formerly named to take Mr Daltons account and they are desired to meete about the same tomorrow in the afternoone
- 12/06/54 5 Ordered that three hundred ordinances bee printed proclamation wise, over and above the 500 formerly printed at the Companies charge.
- 12/06/54 6 **[Page 162]** Ordered that it bee referred to Major Alexander Blake to take care of bottominge the 18 foote dreyne that goes through Thorney to Guyhurne, and hee is desired to give the Company from tyme to tyme an account of his proceedings therein.
- 14/06/54 1 Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Carill, Mr Marsham, Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Mr William Mainston. Colonell Robert Castell, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Fountayne, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Laderman Underwood, Mr Crane, Mr Bland
- 14/06/54 2 Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired to issue out unto Mr Thomas Bland upon account the sum of twenty poundes to retheyne councell for the Companie against Wednesday next
- 19/06/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Richard Gorges Esqr, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Dr Fryer, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Bradley, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Hamond, Mr Trenchard, Mr Carill
- 19/06/54 2 Information beinge made by Hamond Le Strange Esqr that, albeit by order of the 13th June 1653 Mr Moore the surveyour was ordered and appointed to survey his land mentioned in a petition hee then presented to the Companie, as also to certifie what damage and prejudice redounded to the petitioner, yet the said Mr Moore, havinge byn often importuned thereunto, hath not done the same, whereupon it is ordered that the clarke put the Companie in regarde thereof to the end Mr Moore may give them an accompt at his comeinge to towne why it is not yet done.
- 19/06/54 3 Whereas Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood acquainted the Companie with the audite of his accounts formerly taken by Mr Jessop in the yeare 1652, by which account as hee alledged there appeared to bee due from him to the Companie the sum of £130, the said Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood also acquainted the Companie with the great losse hee received by his subexpenditors, desired they would take it into consideration, whereupon it is ordered that the said Lieutenantt Francis Underwood shall bee allowed the moytie of the said £130 due from him to the Companie, hee payinge in the other moytie and deliveringe also into the Companie all writinges, deedes, evidences and vouchers which concerne the Companie, eyther in his owne handes or in hands of any his sub-expenditors and ministers
- 19/06/54 4 Whereas the inhabitants on the north side are indebted unto the Companie of Adventurers the sum of six hundred poundes and upwards for one 3rd part of the erectinge and layinge downe of two sluices as the end of Sheyre Dreyne, one of which sluices is lately decayed and blown up, and whereas the said inhabitants are willing and contented to contribute a 3rd part towards the charge of erectinge and settinge downe of a new sluice instead of the former, which Sir Cornelius Vermuyden estimateth at £900, it is thereupon ordered that if the said inhabitants will lay downe and deposite the sum of £300, the Companie will lay downe £600 more for the charge of a new sluice, but before such tyme as the Company shall expend the same, they doe

expecte that the said inhabitants should first pay the some of six hundred and odd poundes for which is owing from them to the Companie for the 3rd part of the former sluces according to theire agreement in that behalfe and the said inhabitants are to contribute a 3rd of the charge touching the said sluces if any bee, and for the contynuall repayre of the same or else to bee debarred from issuinge their waters by the said sluces

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| 19/06/54 | 5 | <p>[Page 163] Whereas Richard Gorges Esqr informed the Company that his occasions would not permitt him to attend the service of the Companie as conservator of the Middle Levell but that hee had praised John Mingay Esqr to attend the same without puttinge the Companie to further charge if the Companie approve thereof, it is therefore ordered that the said John Mingay Esqr, in the absence of the said Richard Gorges Esqr, bee hereby nominated and elected the Conservator of the Middle Levell, as well to signe bills as to doe and acte all such other matters and thinges as the said Mr Gorges should or might have done in pursuance of any instructions or orders formerly given to or concerninge each conservator in his respective levell. And all the bayliffes and officers within the said Levell are hereby required, in the absence of the said Richard Gorges, to submitt unto and observed the directions and orders of the said John Mingay to all intents and purposes as they ought to doe to the said Richard Gorges, and the attendance of the said Richard Gorges is hereby dispenced with all and yet hee is to contynue to receive his former sallery and to give satisfaction to the said John Mingay for his care and trouble in the aforesaid imployment.</p> |
| 21/06/54 | 1 | Mr Henley, Mr Hamond, Mr Fountayne, Mr Marsham, Mr Latch, Mr R.Hampson, Mr Trafford, Mr Holman, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr William Weston, Mr Carill |
| 21/06/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired forthwith to issue out upon account unto Mr George Barnes for charges of witnesses lately come up, the sum of ten poundes, taking his receipt and placing it to account. |
| 23/06/54 | 1 | Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Ricahrd Holman, Mr Bland, Mr Trafford, Mr Hamond, Mr Crane, Mr Dr Fryer |
| 23/06/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired forthwith to issue out unto Mr Thomas Bland the some of twenty poundes for the use and service of the Companie, takinge his receipt and placing it to accoumpt. |
| 23/06/54 | 3 | Whereas a petition of Francis Burrowes was this day reade over to the Company, naminge an allowance of fiftie poundes for damages about Methwold Fennes in Norffolke, that is to say for procuringe soldyers from Lyn for carryinge ryoters before Justice Shadwell, for makinge up the workes throwne in in Aprill 1653, it is ordered that the sum of twenty markes bee forthwith paid unto the petitioners by Mr Blanchard in full of all demandes whatsoever from the Companie, except such damages as shall bee recovered from the Country upon payment, whereof Mr Blanchard is to take his receipte accordingly placing it to accoumpt. |
| 23/06/54 | 4 | Whereas a petition of the towne of Helgey was presented to the Companie this daie, complanyng amongst other thinges that, for the want of imbankinge the West Fenne and for want of a sluice at the end of Sams his cutt, the said fen hath byn much under water since the adjudication, and therefore prayed that a sluice may bee sett downe at the end of the said cutt to prevent the drowninge of. It is ordered as to that part of the petition that it bee recomended to the care of Mr Hamond and Mr Jonas Moore surveyour who are desired to goe upon the place and doe or cause to bee done thereupon as they shall thinke fitt. |

23/06/54	5	[Page 164] Upon Mr Jonas Moores certificate in writinge this day delivered in to the Companie, it is ordered that a way bee with all convenient speede diked out as it was formerly lockespitted through the 70 acres of Mr Drewreys in Crollode for the accomodation of Mr Michael and Richard Holman, theire agents and tennants, to theire 300 acres in Somersham Fenn in the 2nd lott, and that the same shall contynue a drove way unto the said land for the future.
27/06/54	1	Mr Hamond, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Bland
27/06/54	2	Ordered that Mr Blanchard bee desired forthwith to issue out unto Mr George Barnes account the sum of eight and twenty poundes, sixtie shillings for the charges of witnesses lately come up, takinge his receipt and placing it to account.
28/06/54	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Hamond, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Bland
28/06/54	2	Ordered that Mr Arthur Tench bee contynued in his former imployment as clarke of the comptroller of the workes untill Michalmas next
28/06/54	3	Ordered that all such Adventurers as are now in arrere for theire Adventurers landes doe forthwith make up and cleere theire accounts with the expeditor and pay in theire respective arreres, and the said expeditor is without delay to proceede to sequestration of theire severall and respective landes that are in arrere accordinge to former order, whereof all that are concerned herein are to take notice.
28/06/54	4	Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard doe forthwith pay in to Mr George Dalton, receivor of the Companie, all such money remayninge in his handes of the last tax and all such other mony of the Companies that remaynes in his handes and deliver, unto him a note or receipts and payments, of whome and to whome for doinge, whereof this order shall bee Mr Blanchards discharge. And it is further ordered that the said Mr Dalton doe forthwith repaire into the Country to distreyne for and levey all the arrere of taxes and perfecte his accoumpts against the Companies meetinge att Elie the first daie of August next
28/06/54	5	Ordered that Mr Robert Blanchard shall bee allowed for receipt and payment of money for the Companies use after the rate of halfe a crowne in the hundred
03/07/54	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr William Weston, Mr Bradley, Mr Edward Russell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Latch, Mr Bland
03/07/54	2	[Page 165] It beinge enformed by Mr Henley that my Lord Chief Justice St John desires that the Companie would give his Lordshipp a meetinge on Friday come fortnight next to conferre with his Lordshipp about the publique affayres of the Companie, whereupon the Companie, takinge the same into consideration, they found that most parts of the Companie that were best able to satisfie his Lordshipp were already out of towne and do conceive that before Friday come sennight next there will not bee members of the Companie enough in towne to give a meetinge to his Lordshipp, and therefore desires Mr Henley and Mr Latch to wayte on his Lordshipp with the copie of this order of the 9th June last and to intimate his Lordshipp to intymate his pleasure to the Companie at Elie at theire meetinge there the 1st August next (if hee please) or otherwise as soone as they retorne to towne they will wayte on his Lordshipp.
03/07/54	3	Ordered the some members of the Companie bee desired to attend Mr Secretary Thurloe with a copie of the order of the 6th of July 1650 and acquainte him with the proceedings of the Companie touchinge Lieutenantt Colonell Dodsons demandes,

and that the further consideration thereof may be respited untill their returne from Elie.

- 03/07/54 4 Ordered that the Companie of Adventurers doe adjourne to meete againe att the Signe of the White Hart in Elie the 1st of August next att ten a clocke in the forenoone.
- 15/07/54 1 Att my Lord Cheife Justice St John his chamber in Lincolns Inn
- Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Mr Secretary Thurloe, Mr St John, Mr Marsham, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Holworthy, Mr Downing, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Staunton, Mr Sayer, Comissary Generall Whalley, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Alderman Titchborne, Alderman Underwood, Alderman Hildesley, Colonell Goffe, Mr Noell, Mr Walker
- 15/07/54 2 Resolved and ordered upon the question
- Upon conference with Sergeant Earle, and in the presence of Mr Jeffrey Palmer and Mr Latch of councell for the Companie, that there shall bee a petition forthwith drawne and exhibited to the Lord Comissioners of the Great Seale of England in the name of William Earle of Bedford Participants and Adventurers to desire their Lordshipp to supercede the Comission of Sewers issued out under the Great Seale touching the Great Levell of the Fennes. And it is desired by the Companie present, that Mr St John, Mr Henley and Mr Walker or any two of them would draw up a petition accordingly
- 15/07/54 3 Resolved and ordered
- That a generall meetinge of the whole Companie bee on Thursday the 10th of August next at two a clocke in the afternoone at Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court. In the meane tyme, it is also ordered by the Companie present that the meetinge att Elie appointed the first of August next bee and is hereby suspended, and the Clarke of the Companie is forthwith to give notice of this order to all the members of the Company that are now absent by sendinge downe letters at the Companies charge to the intent they may meete accordingly the tenth of August next
- 15/07/54 4 Resolved and ordered
- That Richard Gorges Esqr or Mr Mingay his deputy in his absence, Anthony Hamond and Alexander Blake Esqr shall forthwith prepare a certificate in writinge of the true state and condition of the severall workes in the whole levell under their respective charges, which certificate is to bee delivered by them to the Companie at their meeting on Thursday the 10th of August next att Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court to the intent it may then appeare what workes are fully finished and what workes are not finished
- 15/07/54 5 Resolved and ordered
- That Mr Barber of Denver and Mr Life of Downham bee desired to take a view of all the workes on the south side of Bedford River and make the certificate to the Companie at their meetinge at Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court the 10th of August next of the true state and condition of every of the said workes, what workes they finde to bee done **[Page 166]** and what workes are not sufficiently done. And that Captain Whitstone, Lieutenantt Raymond and Mr Thomas Woodfall bee desired to take a view of all the workes on the north side of Bedford River and make the like

certificate of the true state and condition of every of the said workes, what workes they finde there to bee done and what workes are not sufficiently done against the meetinge of the Companie as aforesaid to which purpose they are to have copies of the workes sent them.

- 15/07/54 6 Resolved and ordered
- That letters bee forthwith sent in the name of the Companie, together with orders and instructions unto the severall persons appointed to take a view of the workes, signifyinge that ten poundes a peece is to bee paid to each of them by way of impresse and with all that a further recompence for their paines shall bee made at the retorne of their certificate
- 15/07/54 7 Resolved and ordered
- That Mr George Dalton, the receivor, doe deliver and issue out unto Mr Barber of Denver, Mr William Life of Downham, Lieutenantt Colonell Raymond, Captain Whetstone and Mr Thomas Woodfall the sum of ten poundes a peece by way of impresse towards their charges and expences
- 15/07/54 8 Resolved and ordered
- That Mr Henley Snr, Mr St John and Mr Walker or any two of them bee desired forthwith to meete at Mr Henleys howse to prepare letters and instructions as are as they can conceive agreeable to the sense of the Company to bee sent downe to the severall persons appointed to view the workes as also to the conservators
- 10/08/54 1 Att a meetinge att Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court
- Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Secretary Thurloe, Mr St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Latch, Mr Trafford, Mr Staunton, Mr William Weston, Mr Holworthy, Mr Walker, Mr Dayerm Mr Bland, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Hamond, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Robert Hampson, Major Alexander Blake, Comissary Generall Whalley, Colonell Goffe, Lieutenant Colonell Raymond, Mr Swanne, Mr Noell, Mr Samuell, Mr Alexander Jones, Mr Clapthorne, Mr Drewry, Mr Gibson
- 10/08/54 2 Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr St John, Colonell Goffe, Alderman Underwood, Mr Latch, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Walker, Mr Gorges, Major Blake, Mr Marsham, Mr Hamond, or any 3 of them, are hereby named a committee to take into consideration all the workes in the levell formerly designed to bee done viz - all bankes, bridges, forelands, sluces, highwaies, and other workes of what dimensions and proportions they were designed to bee, and consider how farre they have byn performed and what is wantinge in the performance thereof and the cause why the same were not made, to which purpose the said committee are desired to conferre with the gents that made the certificates and to make their report to the Companie att **[Page 167]** the next meetinge. They are likewise desired to consider what the charge of every worke will bee accordinge to former order, as also what other charges the Company are att, both for officers, agents and otherwise, and under what rule and government the whole busines is, and what taxes have byn sett since the adjudication att Peterburgh and Elie, and how they have byn expended, and what remaynes in the treasury, and this committee are desired to meete tomorrow morninge and so *de die in diem* untill they have prosecuted the intention of this order.
- 10/08/54 3 Ordered that the Companie do adjourne to meete againe at Mr Fountaynes howse on Thursday the the 17th August at two a clocke in the afternoone. In the mean tyme

letters are to bee sent to the right honorable Earle of Bedford and his brothers to desire to meete accordingly

17/08/54

1 At Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court

Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Secretary Thurloe, Alderman Underwood, Mr St John, Major Blake, Mr William Weston, Mr Anthony Hamond, Mr Draper, Mr Cony, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Gorges, Colonell Goffe, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Latch, Mr James Harrington, Mr Staunton, Mr Trafford, Mr Alexamder Jones

17/08/54

2 In pursuance of the order of reference made on Thursday last, the Committee made their report as followeth viz -

That the 1st directions given for workes to bee done in the levell remayne in the handes of Mr Burtons executor who live att Spaldinge. For workes done since his death, severall directions are in the handes of Mr Edmund Welsh, principall contractor, and untill they bee obteyned the committee cannot make any further progres therein, unles they may bee found in Mr Jessops bookes of his auditt yet remayning with him. And also the certificates of the performance of the workes accordinge to direction and contracte, which were made by surveyours and overseers, for the tyme beinge doe remayne with their severall expeditors or their deputies, and untill a sight of them can bee had and judgement can bee made. They found that the names of the severall officers and their salaries paid are as followeth.

Richard Gorges Esqr conservator of the Middle Levell - £150.00.00

Anthony Hamond Esqr conservator of the South Levell - £150.00.00

Major Alexander Blake conservator of the North Levell - £150.00.00

George Dalton Expeditior - £150.00.00

Jonas Moore for the oversight of the outfalls and sluices - £100.00.00

Thomas Bland sollicitior - £50.00.00

Edmund Welsh principle contractor - £60.00.00

John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie - £52.00.00

George Barnes one of the bayliffes under Mr Hamond - £30.00.00

Lewis Godfrey one of the bayliffes under Mr Hamond - £30.00.00

A third Bayliffes salary to bee disposed of by Mr Hamond - £30.00.00

Richard Goodson one of the bayliffes under Mr Gorges - £30.00.00

Gabriell Ellyott one of the bayliffes appointed also to take up all dikes throughtout the levell - £50.00.00

Richard Kendall one of the bayliffes under Major Blake - £30.00.00

Captain Lane his other bayliffe - £30.00.00

John Saffery keeper of the sasse at Well Creeke - £30.00.00

Keeper of the 3 sluices at Stoe - £10.00.00

[Page 168] William Watts keeper of the sluice at Stanground - £02.00.00

Nicholas Knowles of 7 sasse below Elie - £20.00.00

Edmund Mott of the outfall at Russell Hill - £04.00.00

Robert Larmer of the sasse at the Hermitage - £16.00.00

George Harvey of the Tyd Goate - £10.00.00

The keeper of Clowes Crosse sluice - £3.00.00

Sander Mackdell messenger to the Companie - £19.10.00

Store howse for the north levell - £2.00.00

Another store howse at Erith - £5.00.00

Amountinge to in the whole - £1212.10.00

- 17/08/54 3 And the said Committee further finde that the taxes payable since the adjudication att Peterburgh 24th March 1650 and 25 and 26 March 1651 for 95000 acres at £01.08.01 an acres comes to - £133395.16.08
- The taxes for 95000 acres from 24th March 1650 to 24 March 1652 - £99553.01.08
- The taxes payable since the adjudication att Elie 24 March 1652 and 25 and 26 March 1653 for 95000 acres at 7s 1d and acre comes to - £33843.15.00
- Which two last sumes make up the 1st sum of - £1333395.16.08
- That there rested yet in arrere of the aforesaid sumes about - £1200.00.00
Also in arrere for 3000 acres overplus above the 20 lotts - £1068.15.00
Besides for the 10000 acres since the last judgement - £3562.10.00
- 17/08/54 4 And touching the government of the levell, that it is comitted to the care of 3 conservators formerly named and their severall officers, accordinge to orders and instructions made at London and confirmed at Elie 23 July 1653
- 17/08/54 5 And foreasmuch as the late ordynance does provide that any 3 of the comissioners, therein appointed to have power to set out all highwaies and passages, the comittee leave the same to the discretion of the said comissioners
- 17/08/54 6 Mr St John made report also to the Companie to this effecte - that hee, havinge taken a view and execution of the accounts as they now stand, it appeared there rested nothinge in the handes of the expeditor, hee havinge issued out the moneyes accordinge to order and former instructions of the Companie and by warrant from the conservators. And pursuinge the abstracte of the accounts sent up by Mr Tench, hee found that from the 4th June 1653 there hath byn layed out and expended in the South Levell £12250.18.03, in the Middle Levell £3313.08.06 and in the North Levell £5413.08.08, in the whole £20977.14.05, by which it appeared there was more expended in the South Levell then in both the other levells.
- 17/08/54 7 Resolved upon the question and ordered as followeth
- That the River of Neane, Whittlesey Dike and Bevills Leame from Pophams Eau shall bee made of the same depth as Pophams Eau, and that the earth that shall bee taken forth of it shall bee rested fower foote from the brincke of the river, and the river to bee made accordinge to its antient breadth
- 17/08/54 8 That the northe bancke of Bedford River, beginninge att Salters Lode for a myle, bee made 7 foote high and 40 foote wide in the seate and 9 foote broad on the topp and from there nere Welney 55 foote wide in the seate 8 foote high and 9 foote broad on the topp, and one other part of the said bancke extending from Welney toward Mr Carills howse is to bee repayred and amended by fillinge up the holes and bullocks tracks on both sides as also on the topp and that it bee 6 foote high and 40 foote wide on the seate and 9 foote broad on the top. The remaynder of the said bancke extending to Welshes dam, 46 foote wide in the leate and 7 foote high and better and all 9 foote on the top. And from Welshes dam unto Mepall bridge, because part of the said bancke is 6 part 5 and part not above 4 foote high beinge slunk downe and burnt in holes and it being 45 foote in the seate and 10 foote on the topp and the other part of the bancke from Mepall to Erith, beinge part 7 foote high, part 6 foote and part 5 foote and 45 foote on the seate and 10 foote on the topp shall bee made 7 foote high in all places and the earth is to bee taken out of the foreland next to the indreyne about 9 foote wide.

- 17/08/54 9 That the north and south bancke of Moretons Leame shall bee both made 7 foote high 40 foote wide in the seate and 9 foote broad on the top throughout.
- 17/08/54 10 **[Page 169]** That Marshland Cutts, where they are defective, shall bee forthwith bottomed, flagged and scowred out to their full depth, and the sluices at the end thereof will bee sufficiently repayed and amended, and that the bankes bee made of a sufficient height, and care taken that in tyme of floodes the fresh doores of the said sluices bee tymely opened and shutt againe (and if need bee) and silt removed from the salt doores.
- 17/08/54 11 That the bancke from Peakirke to Crowland shall have 60 foote foreland made to it according to St Ives Law, and that it bee lockspitted out accordingly
- 17/08/54 12 That new doores and sufficient reparation bee forthwith made to the sluice at Stanground which is lately fallen into decay
- 17/08/54 13 That the 16 foote dreyne from Honey to Pophams Eau bee fully bottomed and all the stoppes and dams taken up and removed, and that it bee scowred out to its full appointed depth.
- 17/08/54 14 That the coares and dams that are in the Sheyre dreyne for the first 3 myles from Clowes Crosse to the seaward bee taken away and removed, and that it bee made throughout as deepe in the middle as on the sides
- 17/08/54 15 Ordered that none of the orders made for the makinge, repayringe and amendinge of the workes before mentioned, nor any orders made this day, shall bee altered revoked suspended or impeached but by so many of Adventurers as have a greater interest in the 95000 acres then the persons were present at making the said orders.
- 17/08/54 16 Whereas some Adventurers have paid in to the expeditor but part of their taxes and refuse to paie in the rest, alledginge they have sold their landes to others so that so that their accounts are not cleered with the expeditor, it is therefore ordered that all such as have purchased and brought any Adventurer land shall forthwith bring in their respective deedes to bee entered with the clarke to the ende the tax roll may bee altered and the accounts cleered with the expeditor, in default whereof their landes are not onely to stand in arrere for such taxes but they are to incurr the penalty of the Acte of Parliament, in that behalfe made and provided.
- 17/08/54 17 Ordered that a bill of five poundes, thirteene shillings and six pence, which was layd out and expended for suspending the comission, bee referred to Mr St John and Mr Walker who are desired to allow of the same if they shall see cause, whereupon Mr Dalton is to pay the same.
- 17/08/54 18 Ordered that the Company doe adjourne to meete againe at Mr Fountaynes howse tomorrow morninge att eight of the clocke
- 18/08/54 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Secretary Thurloe, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr John Russell, Mr Gorges, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr St John, Mr Walker, Mr Andrew Henley
- 18/08/54 2 Ordered that it bee referred to Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood to treat with the inhabitants on the north side of Wisbich touching the layinge and settinge downe of a sluice at the Sheyre Dreyne and to consider of the charge thereof, and that they

give good security to the Company to pay a 3rd part of the charge thereof, as also good bond for what is due and in arrere from them to the Companie, and to oblige themselves to contribute a 3rd part towards the future repayre and maintenance thereof.

18/08/54 3 And it is further ordered that it bee also referred to the said Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood to treat with the inhabitants of the towne of Wisbich to make a proposition to them touchinge the performance of a former agreement made with them for the scowring out of Elme Leame, and bringinge it to the same bottome as the other part thereof is allready begun, and also to treat with them about the settinge downe of a sluice on Elme Leame and they to pay the moytie of the charge and repayre thereof, and Mr Secretary Thurloe is hereby desired to write a letter as well to the inhabitants on the north side of Wisbich as to the said inhabitants of the towne of Wisbich to induce them thereunto.

18/08/54 4 Resolved upon the question and ordered as followeth

- That two sluices bee sett upon the River of Neane to preserve navigation
- That consideration bee had of preservinge Wisbich outfall from Guyhurne downwards and of taking some effectuall course to cleere if from silt.
- **[Page 170]** That the dam in Downham Eau nere Downham Comon bee taken away and removed, and the bridge over against Downham repaired and amended.
- That the sasse upon Well Creeke bee sufficiently repayed and the defect in the threshold thereof speedily amended
- That the dams in Reach Lode bee with all speede removed and taken up
- That the sluice att Elie hardes bee for the present repayed and, as to the shallownes of the sluice pitt, the Companie at some other tyme will take into consideration
- That all dams, stoppes and obstructions bee taken away and removed out of all rivers and dreynes throughout the whole levell
- That that part of Popes Loade where it is defective for a myle or thereabouts bee scowred out.
- That part of plant loade where it is defective for about a myle together bee forthwith scowred and cleansed.
- That Sams his Cutt in every place were it is defective bee with all speede cleered and scowred out to its full appointed depth.
- That the rivers of Stoake, Brandon and Mildenhall bee forthwith rooked and cleansed.
- That Waldersey Bancke bee forthwith repayed and heightened viz - so much thereof from Grigges his howse towards Wisbich where it is low untill it meetes with the other part of the bancke where it is high
- That Hilles Sluice on the Sheyre Dreyne bee repayed if there bee cause

- 5 The Company of Adventurers, taking into their consideration the preservation of the Great Levell of the Fennes and of the navigation in and upon the same, finde it necessary that all the workes perticularly named, ordered and appointed to bee done by order of the 17th August instant and by order this day made, bee and are hereby ordered adjudged and decreed to bee mainteyned, repayred and amended in manner as aforesaid, and the said Company taking further into their consideration the charge and what sums of money will bee requisite for the doinge thereof, they find it necessarily assessed upon the whole 95000 acres heretofore allotted unto the said Adventurers within the said levell, and doe therefore adjudge, order and decree that the sum of 18d per the acre bee sett and layd upon every acre of the said 95000 acres for and towards the repayinge, mainteyninge and amendinge of the before mentioned workes. And the said tax is hereby sett, imposed and layd accordingly and shall bee paid unto Mr George Dalton expeditor att his howse without Temple Barre in the County of Middlesex in the Butcher Row in manner and forme followinge, that is to say the sum of 9d upon every acre, beinge one moytie thereof the first daie of September next ensuinge and 9d an acre, beinge the other moytie thereof on the first of October next. And in default of payment of the first moytie of the said tax of 18d an acre upon or before the 10th day of September next and the other moytie upon or before the 10th daie of October next, every such defaulter shall by way of nyne pence forfeite, and pay the sum of 3s 4d in the pound and the like sum of 3s 4d in the pounce for every 10 daies after the said 10th daie of September and 10th day of October next, respectively, that the same shall bee so unpaid to bee employed and layd out for the publique use of the Company. And that the persons hereafter named viz - William Lettany of Elie, William Whittlesey of Haddenham, Joseph R. Davies of Wisbich and Joseph Payne of Chartris shall bee and are hereby named, constituted and appointed bayliffes of the said Company who shall have power and authority to distreine upon the landes of the severall proportions of the said 95000 acres as shall make default, as aforesaid, as well for the arreres of the said tax of 18d an acre, as also of two shillings in the pound for the charges occasioned by such distresse or so sequester and receive the proffitts of the said defaulters landes, parcell of the said 95000 acres, for satisfyinge of the said tax and forfeitures. And the said Mr Dalton, who is hereby appointed to receive the said tax and penalties, shall duely make estimates of such sum and sums of mony as shall bee in arrere of the said tax and of the names of the parties from whome the same are due and cause the same to bee transmitted to the severall and respective bayliffes or any of them which shall bee their sufficient warrant for leveyinge of the same in manner aforesaid, and such moneyes as they shall levey in pursuance thereof (their owne fees beinge deducted) shall bee paid unto the said George Dalton or such as hee shall thereunto appointe for the use aforesaid. And to the ende all persons interested in the said 95000 acres may have due notice of this tax of 18d an acre and of the daies when the same is appointed to bee paid, it is ordered that this present order for the raisinge thereof bee forthwith affixed upon the usuall palce where former orders of publique concernment have byn affixed att Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court on the bancke side **[Page 171]** St Clements Church without Temple Barr in the County of Middlesex, and also that proclamation of this order of tax bee forthwith made att the townes of Elie, Littleport, Wisbich, Whittlesey and Thorney in the Isle of Elie and County of Cambridge, as also att Downham in Norffolke and Peterburgh in the County of Northampton, in market tyme in such of the said townes where marketts are, and in churches where there are noe marketts, att the tyme of service before the sermons and after the readinge in some publique place where all concerned may take notice thereof, and the aforesaid bayliffes can see the promises put in due execution.

- 6 Ordered that none of the orders made this daie shall bee altered, revoked, suspended

or impeached but by soe many of the Adventurers that have a greater interest in the 95000 acres then the persons were present att the meetinge the said orders.

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| 19/08/54 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Mr Edward Sadler, Comissery Generall Whalley, Colonell Goffe, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Secretary Thurloe, Mr Bradley |
| 19/08/54 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr St John and Mr Latch, or any two of them, doe consider of a constant and speedy way to put the accoumpts in for the tyme to come, to which purpose they are hereby impowered to call all parties before them that have recieved any moneyes of the Company and cause them to bringe in all their receipts, payments and contracts as have byn made for workes or otherwise, as also to doe all other matters and thinges as they in their judgement shall find requisite and necessary for the cleeringe the accounts for the future. And Mr Alderman Alleyn and Mr Aldeman Gale are desired to assist the said Committee, and it is espetially recomended to the care of Mr St John. |
| 19/08/54 | 3 | Ordered that the sum of £1200 in arrere upon the accounts and the sum of £400 restinge in the handes of the conservators, together with such money as shall appeare to bee due and in arrere (after the debts of the Companie paid and the contracts for workes now actually done and in doinge performed), bee wholly applied to the repayinge and amendinge of all the workes now ordered to bee done, and for which a tax of 18d an acre is now sett. |
| 19/08/54 | 4 | Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford bee desired to see all those workes appointed to bee done in the North Levell, accordinge to the order hereunto annexed, bee effectually done and executed, and to imploy such officers and allow them such weekly allowances as his Lordshipp shall thinke fitt, not exceeding fower poundes a weeke. And his Lordshipp is desired to take care of that whole levell for preservation thereof untill the Companie shall take further order, makinge such allowance as aforesaid to the persons shall bee so imployed. And all that levell lyinge on the north side of Moretons Leames is to bee acccoumpted the said North Levell. |
| 19/08/54 | 5 | Ordered that my Lord Chief Justice St John bee desired to see all those workes appointed to bee done in the Middle Levell bee, acordinge to the orders hereunto annexed, effectually done and executed. And to that purpose, his Lordshipp may imploy such officers as hee shall thinke fitt, not exceeding six poundes a weeke. And his Lordshipp is also desired to take care of that whole levell for preservation thereof untill the Companie take other order, makinge such allowance as aforesaid to the persons shall bee soe imployed. And all that levell lyinge on the south side Moretons Leame and on the north side of new Bedford River is to bee acccoumpted the said Middle Level. |
| 19/08/54 | 6 | Ordered that Comissary Generall Whalley bee desired to see all those workes appointed to bee done on the south side of Bedford River bee effectually done and executed, accordinge to the severall orders hereunto annexed. And to that purpose, hee may imploy such officers and allow them such weekly allowance as hee shall thinke fitt, not exceeding five poundes a weeke. And the said Comissary Generall is desired to take care of all that whole levell for preservation thereof untill the Companie take further order, makinge such allowance as aforesaid to the persons shall bee so imployed. |
| 19/08/54 | 7 | [Page 172] Ordered that the 1st £500, which shall bee raised upon the 18d tax, shall bee applied, issued out and advanced toward the charge of bottominge the River Neane, and afterwards too parts in three parts of the said tax shall bee applied and |

issued out on the workes in the Middle Levell, and the residue upon the workes in the North and South levell, appointed as aforesaid, to bee made in equall proportions untill, upon certificate of the Earle of Bedford and Comissary Generall Whalley of the charge of the said North and South levells, the Companie shall give other or further order then.

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| 19/08/54 | 8 | Ordered that Mr George Dalton bee hereby appointed receivor of the tax of 18d an acre, who is to issue out the some upon such workes onely as are appointed to bee done by order made for the said tax and accordinge to such proportions as is appointed by former order, and not otherwise. |
| 19/08/54 | 9 | Ordered that the contracts, which shall bee made in pursuance of the aforesaid order, shall bee fayrely entered into a book by the persons that make them, and duplicates whereof shall bee sent to the expendor and the other left with the conservator under whose charge such worke is. |
| 19/08/54 | 10 | Ordered that Mr Dalton shall, for the payment of the said workes, issue out mony unto the handes of the Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John and Comissary Generall Whalley, accordinge to the proportions before mentioned or to such as they shall appointe by warrant under their handes and seales, which warrant with the acquittance of the parties that shall so receive the same shall bee a sufficient discharge to the said expendor. |
| 19/08/54 | 11 | Ordered that the Earle of Bedford, Lord Chiefe Justice St John and Comissary Generall Whalley bee desired to take care that the Companie from tyme to tyme have a perticuler account of the proceedinges made upon the said workes and of the charge thereof and likewise that an account bee made and sent up to the Companie upon the finishinge any workes, to the ende they may know that their money hath byn layd out accordinge to their order. |
| 19/08/54 | 12 | Ordered that one moytie of penalties that shall grow due for non payment of the tax of 18d an acres shall bee allocated to the severall bayliffes appointed to levey the same. |
| 19/08/54 | 13 | Ordered that none of the orders made this day shall bee altered revoked, suspended or impeached but by so many of Adventurers as have a greater interest in the 95000 acres then the persons were present at the making of the said orders. |
| 23/08/54 | 1 | Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Walker |
| 23/08/54 | 2 | Ordered that severall letters bee written to Anthony Hamond and Major Alexander Blake Esqrs that they forthwith pay in to Mr Dalton expendor the some of fower hundred poundes (restinge in their handes) which is to bee issued out accordinge as the Companie by order here directed. |
| 23/08/54 | 3 | Ordered that the conservators of the levell or any of them bee hereby authorized to take an account of all wheelbarrows, planks and materials of the Companie, how have they byn disposed of, in whose custodie and care they now are, and to examyn all abuses touchinge the same, and to that purpose are hereby authorized to call before them all parties concerned, and they shall also hereby have power to issue out and dispose of the said materials or such and so many of them as they or any of them shall thinke fitt. |

- 23/08/54 4 Ordered that all sallaryes, *per diems* and accoumpts formely allowed to officers, agents, ministers and workemen, for or concerning the Great Levell of the Fennes doe hereby cease **[Page 173]** and determyn, except the expendor, the sollicitor of the Company who are hereby ordered to contynue in their former imployments, together with such other officers, agents and ministers as the three conservators in their respective levells shall thinke fitt, allowinge them such allowances as by former order as appointed.
- 23/08/54 5 Ordered that a letter be written to Mr Jonas Moore in the name of the Companie to certifie the mistake of 15 acres alledged to bee take away from Mr Heveringham more then is warranted by the lott booke or St Ives Law, and with all convenient speede to certifie the Companie his proceedinges therein, and to signifie unto him that the Companie doe expecte hee should prepare an exacte mapp of the whole levell against the tyme hee hath undertaken it, and to take care that all mappes that were formerly delivered unto him by inventory, beinge 94 in number, and 28 more which hee received of Mr Lane, bee preserved and carefully layd up for the use of the Company.
- 23/08/54 6 Ordered that Mr Jessop bee desired with all convenient speede to make his report (touchinge the old arrere referred to him by Mr Fountaynes report) unto the Committee appointed by order of the 19th of August instant and certifie what is due to Mr Henley out of the same.
- 23/08/54 7 Ordered that the Companie of Adventurers doe adjourne to meete here againe at Mr Fountaynes howse 19th of September next at two a clocke in the afternoone, and in default of meeting at that tyme then they are to meete the 2nd day of October next at nyne a clocke in the forenoone.
- 02/10/54 1 Mr Stanley, Anthony Samuell, Mr Carill, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr William Harrington, Mr Cooke
- 02/10/54 2 Ordered that Mr George Dalton the receivor doe forthwith issue out and paie unto Mr Bland the sollicitor of the Companie the sum of twenty poundes upon account for reteyninge councill against the meetinge of the Comissioners on Wednesday next, and this shall bee his discharge takeinge his receipt for the same.
- 02/10/54 p.m 1 Mr Hamond, Mr Stanley, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Walker, Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Arthur Samuall, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Carill, Mr Robert Hampson, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr William Harrington
- 02/10/54 p.m 2 Upon readinge of a paper delivered in this daie by Henry Cromwell Esqr on the behalfe of himselfe, his brother and Sir Oliver Cromwell, it is ordered that the same bee referred to my Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Marsham and Mr Hampson or any 3 of them who are **[Page 174]** are hereby named a committee and desired to take the said paper unto consideration, and at the next meeting of the Companie make their report what is fitt for them to doe there upon.
- 02/10/54 p.m 3 Ordered that Mr Hamond, Mr Latch and Mr Vermuyden bee hereby named a committee and are or any two of them desired to take into consideration the proposition and case of Sir Gilbert Gerard, touchinge his 500 acres in Palmer Fen nere Benwicke, against the meetinge of the Comissioners on Wednesday next, and thereupon receive their order as well in this as in other like cases of the same nature.

- 02/10/54 p.m 4 Comissary Generall Whalley acquainted the Company this daie with a letter hee lately received from Mr Jonas Moore intymatinge that to the servinge of the South Levell from overflowinge there ought severall workes to bee forthwith finished, whereupon the Companie takinge the same into consideration doe order as followeth viz -
- That the great bancke over against Wellney and below towards Salters Lode, where it is defective, bee speedily repayred and amended. And the gage and dimention thereof is left to Comissary Generall Whalley.
 - That the banckes on both sides the old channel of Owze bee forthwith made, repayred and amended accordinge as Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath or shall directe.
 - That the dreyne from Mildenhall to Littleport Chayre, allready begun, bee forthwith effectually prosecuted
 - That there bee 3 dreynes made for the three brookes of Methwold, Lakingale and Eariswell Mill brooke or Fulban and Qui Mill brooke and an effectuall course taken therein.
 - That the dreyne for the downfall of Hockwold and Feltwell severalls to run into Sams his Cutt bee forthwith done and finished accordinge as formerly Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath directed.
 - That all sluces and tonells throughout the whole South Levell bee made repayred and amended.
- 02/10/54 p.m 5 A question being put whether or noe any spring dores shall bee made to the sasse att Salters Loade, it was resolved in the negative.
- 02/10/54 p.m 6 Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor doe pay to Comissary Generall Whalley the sum of twenty nobles, which hee paid to Mr Pratt of Hockwold in lieu and satisfaction for a way which should have byn made through his Adventurers lands
- 02/10/54 p.m 7 Upon the petition of Mr Tench now read over, if it appeares upon the certificate of Mr George Dalton that by the accoumpts there is due to the petitioner a months sallary, it is ordered that the receivor paie the same.
- 02/10/54 p.m 8 Ordered that the Companie doe adjourne to meete againe att Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court on Friday next att two a clocke in the afternoone against which tyme any Adventurers that hath a mynde to advice with counsell about the legallity of imposinge the last tax are desired to gett their opinions in writinge under their handes, and the clarke is to give notice to my Lord of Bedford and such as are absent of the Companies meetinge.
- 06/10/54 1 Att my Lord Chiefe Justice St John his Chamber in Lincolns Inne by adjournment from Mr Fountaynes howse in Boswell Court
- Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Trenchard, Alderman Underwood, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr J.Harrington, Lord Chief Justice St John, Alderman Holdesley, Mr Sherriffe Alleyn, Mr Henley, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Alderman Titchborne **[Page 175]** Mr Hamond, Mr Fountayne, Mr W.Harrington, Mr Holworthy, Mr Bland, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Marsham, Mr Woodward, Mr Fortrey, Mr Sayer, Mr Hampson, Mr Walker

06/10/54	1	Resolved upon the question and ordered	That every Adventurer and Participant that shall faile in payment on the first moytie of the tax of 18d an acre, due and payable the first of September last, accordinge to the order of the 18 August last, within 10 daies next enusinge the date hereof, shall forfeite and paie for such his default the sum of 3s 4d in the pound to the use of the Companie
06/10/54	2	Resolved	That distresses shall bee made accordinge to the Acte and Ordinances of Parliament upon the landes of all such that shall make default of payment of the said tax and penaltie
06/10/54	3	Resolved	That the sum of £1894 which is enforced to bee due from Sir Cornelius Vermuyden bee taken into consideration att the next meetinge of the Company
06/10/54	4	Resolved	That the sum of £200 which Mr Hamond does acknowledge hee received for the use of the Company (in case of imergencies) bee referred to the consideration of the Committee of accoumpts.
06/10/54	5	Resolved	That all taxes in arrere, together with the penalties due in the same, shall bee forthwith effectually collected and gathered by the expendor accordinge to the severall orderes of tax made for that behalfe
06/10/54	6	Resolved	That a tax of 3d an acre shall be raised upon the whole 95000 acres
06/10/54	7	Resolved	That the sixst £700 of the said tax shall bee issued out and paid to Comissary Generall Whalley for the imbankinge of the old Owze.
06/10/54	8	Resolved	That the residue of the said 3d tax shall bee issued out upon the works in the Middle Levell.
06/10/54	9	Resolved	That the daie of payment of the said tax of 3d an acre shall bee upon the first day of November and the daie of forfeiture the 10th of November next and the forfeiture 3s 4d in the pounce
06/10/54	10	Resolved	That the said tax and forfeiture, as shall arrere there upon, shall bee paid to Mr Dalton the expendor and to bee issued out accordinge to this order

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| 06/10/54 | 11 | <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Mr Bland to sollicitor shall have forthwith paid unto him by the expeditor the sum of three some poundes towards the charges of suytes and for the service of the Companue</p> |
| 06/10/54 | 12 | <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Companie doe adjourne to meete againe att Mr Whitchrotts Chamber in the Inner Chamber the second Wednesdaie in the next terme att two of the clocke in the afternoon</p> |
| 06/10/54 | 13 | <p>[Page 176] The Companie, takinge into their consideration the preservation and maintenance of the workes in the Great Levell of the Fennes (after so vast a charge expended there upon), doe in order to the servinge and preservinge the said levell finde it necessary that the old river Owze bee forthwith embanked and that the works formerly ordered to bee done in the Middle Levell bee effectually prosecuted accordinge to the order of the 18th of August last, and doe thinke it requisite for the doinge of the said workes that another tax of 3d by the acre bee forthwith raised, taxed and assessed upon the whole 95000 acres heretofore allotted to the said Adventurers within the said levell, and therefore adjudge, order and desire that the said sum of 3d by the acres bee layd upon every acre of the said 95000 acres. And the said tax is hereby layd assessed and imposed accordingly and shall bee paid to George Dalton expeditor at his howse without Temple Barre in the Butchers Row in the County of Middlesex at or upon the 1st daie of November next. And in default of payment of the said tax or any part thereof on or before the 10th day of November next, every such defaulter shall by the way of notice, forfeite and paie to the publike use of the Companie the sum of 3s 4d in the pounce and so the like sum of 3s 4d in the pounce for every ten daies after hee shall soe make default in payinge the said tax. And the persons hereafter named viz - William Lettany of Elie, William Whittlesey of Haddenham, Joseph Davies of Wisbich, and Joseph Paine of Chartris are hereby nominated constituted and appointed bayliffes to the said Companie to collecte and gather the arreres and forfeitruers of the said tax, and to distreine upon the landes of the severall owners severally and respectively, accordinge to their severall proportions of the said nynety five thousand acres or to sequester the landes of all defaulters and the rents and profitts thereof to receive untill with and out of the same, the rates of taxes in arrere and penalties shall bee satisfied and paid together with 2s in the pound for the charges occasioned by such distres. And the said Mr Dalton the expeditor to take care to issue out estreats accordingly. And it is lastly ordered adjudged and decreed that the first £700 of the said tax, as shall bee raised and levied as aforesaid, shall bee issued out and paid by the said expeditor and unto Comissary Generall Whalley conservator of the South Levell which is to bee forthwith layd out and disbursed for and toward the imbankinge of old Owze as aforesaid and the residue of the said tax of 3d an acre is to bee expended and layd out upon the workes of the Middle Levell formerly ordered to bee done in and by the before mentioned order of tax of 18th August last.</p> |
| 01/11/54 | 1 | <p>Att a meetinge att my Lord Chiefe Justice St John his chamber in Lincolns Inn by adjournment from Mr Whitchrotts Chamber in the Inner Temple</p> <p>Earle of Bedford, Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Richard Gorges Esqr, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Robert Henley Snr Esqr, William Crane Esqr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Arthur Everlyn Esqr, Anthony Samuell Esqr, John Marsham Esqr, John Bridges Snr Esqr, Thomas</p> |

Woodward Esqr, Anthony Hamond Esqr, John Fountayne Esqr, Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr, Mr Edward Sadler, Comissary Generall Whalley, Colonell William Goffe, Alderman Titchborne, Sir Edward Partherich, Thomas Chicheley Esqr, Aldermant Hildersley, Alderman Underwood, Colonell Robert Castell, William Say Esqr, Captain Richard Swann, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland, Mr Walker

01/11/54 2 Ordered

That noe further tyme then ten dayes shall bee given to any Adventurer makinge default in payinge in the last tax of 17d an acres or any other arrere, and that after that tyme any six of the Companie may issue out warrants for distreyninge for such arreres and the penalties formerly imposed.

01/11/54 3 **[Page 177]** Ordered

That it bee referred to the Committee of Accounts formerly named to consider of some effectuall course how all tax and arreres may bee speedily collected and gathered and the tax roll certified. And they shall allow satisfaction out of the penalties to such person or persons as they shall imploy about the same as they in their judgements shall thinke fitt, and this committee are desired to meete *de die diem* and make their report to the Companie how the accounts stand on Satterday next come three weekes

01/11/54 4 Ordered

That out of the next tax that is sett, Mr Bland the sollicitor shall bee reimbursed the sum of a hundred poundes which hee hath agreed to advance for the service of the Company with consideration also for the tyme of forbearance

25/11/54 1 Att my Lord Chief Justice St Johns his chamber in Lincoln Inne

Lord Chiefe Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Alderman Underwood, Colonell William Smith, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Sam Jones, Mr Bland, Mr Bridges, Mr Hamond, Sir Thomas Hampson, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr William Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Mr William Weston, Mr Walker, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Land, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Marsham

25/11/54 2 Memorand. It is this daie mutually agreed by and betweene Sir Gilber Gerard and Mr Bridges on the one part and the Companie of Adventurers on the other part that an exchange shall bee made with the said Sir Gilber Gerard and Mr Bridges in lieu of their 171 aces in Over and 300 acres in Wicken Sedge Fenn for 500 acres of the Companies land in Glatton and Holme, and the Companie are to hand the £550 due from the towne of Over paid unto them and the lease of the said 500 acres, yet in beinge so to contynue whereupon the Companie will joyne with the said Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges in a conveyance of the said 171 acres unto the towne of Over, which said 171 acres are to stand equally lyable and contributory with the rest of the 95000 acres towards the payment of all future taxes. And the said Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges, in consideration of the premisses, are to convey to the Companie the said 300 acres in Wickin Sedge Fenn.

25/11/54 3 Ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe attend Mr Stuart Eale and Mr Fountayne touching the busines of Palmers Fenne for which an evicitione firme is late brought against the Adventurers concerned therein and receive their advice what is fitt for the Companie to doe thereupon, and all parties interested therein are desired to take

notice thereof.

- 25/11/54 4 Ordered that Mr Jonas Moore and George Barnes bee dispenced with for their attendance upon the Companies business in the Country to the end they may come to London against the next sittinge of the Comissioners in the Temple Hall on Tuesdaie next come sennight at 2 a clocke in the afternoone to bee witnesses there for the Companie in the busines of Littleport, Downham and other busines there dependenge.
- 25/11/54 5 Ordered that the Companie bee desired to take into their consideration on Thursday come sennight next the devidinge of the whole levell of the Fennes into three distincte parts of levells in the meane tyme
- 25/11/54 6 The right honorable Earle of Bedford
Comissary Generall Whalley
Mr Hamond
Mr Marsham
Mr Fountayne
Mr Vermuyden
Mr Latch
Mr Arthur Evelyn

[Page 178] or any five or more of them are desired to meete together and consider how they may contrive the same and are also desired to offer to the Company some expedient att their next meetinge

- 29/01/55 1 Att a meetinge att my Lord Chiefe Justice St John his chamber in Lincolns Inne by adjournment from the 7th of December last
- Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr William Weston, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Bradley, Mr Walker, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Trenchard, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Thomas Woodward, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Say, Captain Swann, Mr Trafford, Major Alexander Blake, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Carill, Mr William Crane, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Thomas Chicheley, Mr Robert Hampson, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Staunton, Mr Hamon Ward, Mr Marsham, Mr Bland
- 29/01/55 2 Resolved upon the question
- That the Committee appointed to bringe in their estimate of the workes in the 3 respective levells bee desired to meete on Monday next and make their report to the Company at their next meetinge
- 29/01/55 2 Ordered that Mr Robert Hampson forthwith paie into the Companie unto their receivor the sum of £65.04.00 arrere of the 2s tax due 20th August last and £47.17.00 for arrere of the tax of 12d an acre due the 1st February last and the like sum of £47.12.00 for the 12d tax due the first of May and 1st of June last for 933 acres in the 11th and 14th lotts, savinge allways and reservinge unto any person or persons the right and tithe to the said landes so in arrere, and in the meane tyme the clarke is to enter Mr Robert Hampsons name into the tax roll accordinge to his conveyance
- 29/01/55 3 Ordered that all those Adventurers as are in arrere in payinge in the tax of 2s an acres due 20th August last, the tax of 12d an acre due the first of February last and the tax of 12d an acre due the 1st of May and 1st June last, shall pay in their respective arreres at or before the 12th day of February next, or in default thereof every such Adventurer shall by way of *novie penie* pay *pro rata* for his proportion of lande the sum of 10s in the pounce for every daie after the said 12th day of February hee shall

so make default in payinge in the 18d tax due and payable the 1st of September and 1st of October last, and the last tax of 3d an acre due and payable the 1st of November last shall forfeite and pay the sum of 6s 8d in the pound *pro rata* for every weeke after the said 12th day of February hee shall made such default, and it is further ordered that Mr George Dalton the expenditor bee hereby authorized to collecte and gather the said arreres, and in default of payment it shall and may be lawfull for the said George Dalton to lay downe the said arreres and to receive and take his owne use of the said penalties and forfeitures above mentioned as they grow due and eyther by himselfe, or such other person or persons as hee shall imploy, shalle make distresses upon the goodes and chattells of all such defaulters. And hee shall have such further power for levyinge the said arreres and penalties as by any Acte of Parliament or otherwise is given to the Company of Adventurers.

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| 29/01/55 | 4 | [Page 179] Upon readinge of the order and agreement made by the Company with Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges touchinge the 500 acres in Glatton and Holme, it is ordered that Mr Sergeant Earle and Mr Fountayne or eyther of them bee desired to prepare the conveyances for the towne of Over. The Company, Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges and Mr Bland the sollicitor, is to attend them accordingly and this is to bee done forthwith to the intent the Company may receive the £500 due to them from the said towne of Over. |
| 29/01/55 | 5 | Ordered that severall suytes conveyed against Henry Purryer, servant unto Mr Gorges, bee taken care of by Mr Bland the sollicitor att the Companies charge |
| 29/01/55 | 6 | Ordered that Mr George Dalton doe with all convenient speede audite and prepare an accoumpt in writinge of the sum and sums of money as att any tyme hath byn paid and received for the Companie |
| 29/01/55 | 7 | Ordered that Mr St John and Mr Fountayne and Mr Latch bee desired to take the whole busines of accounts into consideration and execution, soe as to state and audit the same, and to call to their assistance whome they shall thinke fitt, and afterwards make their report to the Companie. In the meane tyme Mr Gorges is desired from the Company to make proposition to them to accept of £200 for their paynes and Mr Gorges is desired to make report to the Companie at their meeting on Thursday next. |
| 29/01/55 | 7 | Ordered that Mr Trafford and Mr Bland bee desired to finde out some convenient place in the Temple for the Companie to meete in, and are desired to make their report to the Companie att their next meetinge. |
| 29/01/55 | 8 | Upon the petition of Anne Spencer, widowe, and Phillip Spencer, this day read over, it is ordered that a copie thereof bee sent to Lieutenantt Francis Underwood to consider thereof and certifie the Company whether the £30 thereby demanded hath not byn allready paid. |
| 01/02/55 | 1 | Att a meeting att my Lord Cheife Justice St John his chamber in Lincolnes Inne

Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henley, Mr Marsham, Mr Evelyn, Mr Latch, Mr Fountayne, Mr Chicheley, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Crane, Colonell Castell, Mr James Harrington, Mr Trafford, Mr Say, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland |
| 01/02/55 | 2 | The Company doe conceive that all the money that hath byn layd out and expended towards the taking of the Gull and repayringe for the bancke between Bevis Hall and Guyhurne ought to bee bourne and paid by the inhabitants on the north side of |

Wisbich. Nevertheles it is referred to Mr Fountayne to make an agreement with the said inhabitants for endinge and determyninge all differences between the Company and them and so as the Company bee forever after acquitted and discharged from mainteyninge and repayringe of the same.

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| 01/02/55 | 3 | For as much as Mr Jessops accoumpt, whereby hee charges himselfe with fiftie one thousand and one pound, six shillings and a penny, and his discharges touchinge the same, hath byn audited and examined by a committee there unto appointed and by them approved, the Companie doe thereupon allow of the same and doe hereby acquitt and discharge the said Mr Jessop touching the same and doe order that the said account together with the vouchers bee put into the presse with the rest of the records of the Company, and Mr Gorges is desired in the name of the Company to give Mr Jessop thanks for his care, paines and faithfulness. |
| 01/02/55 | 4 | [Page 180] Ordered that Mr Bland bee hereby authorized on the behalfe of the Companie to demand and receive of bond from the inhabitants of the north side of Wisbich all such sum and sums of money as is due and owinge to the Company from them. |
| 01/02/55 | 5 | Ordered that Mr Bland and the clarke of the Company doe with all speede make a schedule of all the vouchers and bills concerninge the account made by Mr Jessop. |
| 01/02/55 | 6 | Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham and Colonell Robert Castell bee added to Mr Trafford and Mr Bland, the committee formerly named to finde out and provide a convenient chamber for the Company to meete in, and they are desired to make some report to the Companie att their next meetinge |
| 15/02/55 | 1 | Att my Lord Chiefe Justice St Johns his chamber in Lincolns Inn by adjournment from the 6th February instant.

Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Vermuyden, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Trenchard, Captain Richard Swann, Mr Bladwyn Arthur, Mr Hildesley jn, Lord Cheif Justice St John, Mr Say, Mr Hamond, Mr Trafford, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Latch, Mr Marsham, Mr Henry Henne, Mr Arthur Samuel, Dr Fryer, Mr Page, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr St John, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr James Harrington, Mr Sherriffe Alleyn, Alderman Titchborne, Alderman Hildesley, Alderman Underwood, Mr Walker, Mr Chicheley, Mr Staunton, Mr Bridgeman, Mr Bland |
| 15/02/55 | 2 | A letter was read over from Mr Secretary Thurloe and another from Mr Waterhowse touchinge 200 acres claymed by his Highnes the Lord Protector |
| 15/02/55 | 3 | Ordered that the Companie resolve to put 200 acres of Edmund Bell and others, which is claymed by his Highnes the Lord Protector to the intent his Highnes may have and enjoy the same. And in the meane tyme, the Companie doe desire Mr Hamond and Colonell Robert Castell to treat with the said Mr Bell touchinge the same and give the Company an account thereof att their next meetinge. |
| 15/02/55 | 4 | In regard Mr Sergeant Maynard, Mr Sergeant Glynn and Mr Fountayne, by reason of the seale in the Temple Hall, cannot bee present at Guildhall to attend the tryall appointed tomorrow morning upon an action of Trover and caution between Mr Bridgeman, one of the Companie Adventurers, and Mr Dornera, it is thought fitt and ordered that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe withdraw the action allready conceived untill some futher tyme in the next terme |

15/02/55	5	Ordered that Mr Robert Hampson forthwith paie unto the Company unto Mr Dalton their receiver the arrears of the 18d tax due in May and June 1654, their arrears of the 18d tax due 1st September and 1st October last, and the arrears of the 3rd tax due the 1st November last for his proportion of 933 1/2 acres in the 11th and 19th lots. And the clerk is accordingly to make entry of his name into the several tax rolls <i>de bene esse</i> , without prejudice to any other persons in their right and title to the said lands, in confirmation of a former order of the 29th of January last.
15/02/55	6	The right honorable the Earle of Bedford made report to the Company that the Committee met several times about deviding the levell but, in regard there was not an equal devision made thereof, they could not proceede to a devision at present, the North Levell havinge many great workes to mainteyne and but a small quantity of ground for the mainteyninge thereof, and it was also alledged that at present the South Levell was not in a condition with the other levells
17/02/55	1	[Page 181] Lord Chief Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Hamond, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Sir Henry Henne, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Crane, Captain Swann, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Bland, Mr Gorges, Mr Trafford, Dr Fryer, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr James Harrington, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Downinge, Mr Trenchard, Mr Woodward, Mr Culpeper, Mr Bradley
17/02/55	2	Three estimates were delivered in this day by the right honorable Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John and Comissary Generall Whalley
17/02/55	3	Ordered that Comissary Generall Whalley bee desired to deliver in to the Company on Wednesday next a particuler estimate of all such new works as are necessary to bee made in the South Levell
17/02/55	4	Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford bee desired to bring in and deliver to the Company a particuler estimate and account of the charge of the workes in the North Levell, and that my Lord Chief Justice St John and Comissary Whalley would doe the like for the charge of the workes in the Middle and South Levell.
17/02/55	5	Resolved That 60 foote for the forelands and drove ways bee provided for all bankes in the levell to the ende that for the future there may still bee a competency of earth for the repaire thereof
17/02/55	6	A question was made whether Downham Eau shall bee heightened and enlarged from Downham Bridge to Mowdlyn fall, whether it were necessary, how to bee done and what would bee the charge, to bee resumed next meeting in the afternoone
17/02/55 p.m.	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Hamond, Mr Culpeper, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Walker, Mr Crane, Mr Chicheley, Comissary Generall Whalley, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Woodward, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Fountayne, Mr Gorges, Dr Fryer, Mr Staunton, Mr Bland
17/02/55 p.m.	2	Ordered that it bee desired that all such Adventurers as are concerned in the South Levell would meete my Lord Chief Justice St John his chamber in Lincolnes Inn on Tuesday next betweene eight and nyne of the clocke in the forenoone to take into their further consideration what particuler workes are necessary to bee done in that levell and make report thereof to the Companie on Wednesday next

21/02/55	1	<p>Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Marsham, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr St John, Mr Noelle, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr James Harrington, Mr Woodward, Mr B. Arthur, Mr Vermuyden, Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood, Mr Chicheley, Mr Downinge, Mr Hallett, Mr Crane, Mr Hamond, Sir Edward Partherich, Dr Fryer, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Staunton, Mr Breton, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Gorges, Colonell Robert Castell, Captain Richard Swann, Mr Sayer, Mr Bland</p>
21/02/55	1	<p>[Page 182] Resolved upon the question</p> <p>That £2000 shall bee allocated for the workes in the North Levell mentioned in a perticuler this day delivered to the Companie</p>
21/02/55	2	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That £11000 shall bee allowed for the workes in the Middle Levell mentioned in a perticuler this day delivered in to the Companie</p>
21/02/55	3	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That £10000 shall bee allowed for the workes in the South Levell mentioned in two perticulers this daie delivered in to the Companie</p>
21/02/55	4	<p>Resolved upon the question</p> <p>That a tax of five shillings an acre shall bee and is hereby sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres for the makinge repayringe, finishinge and amendinge of the severall workes mentioned in the severall particulers of estimates delivered in this day to the Company, which tax is to bee paid at five severall payments that is to say</p> <p>1 The first payment of 12d an acres on the 1st of March next and the tyme of forfeituree on the 2nd Aprill 1655</p> <p>2 The 2nd payment of 12d an acres on the 1st of June 1655 next and the tyme of forfeituree on the 2nd July 1655</p> <p>3 The 3rd payment of 12d an acres on the 1st of September 1655 next and the tyme of forfeituree on the 2nd October 1655</p> <p>4 The 4th payment of 12d an acres on the 1st of February 1655 next and the tyme of forfeituree on the th March 1655</p> <p>5 The 5th payment of 12d an acres on the 1st of August 1656 next and the tyme of forfeituree on the 3rd September 1656</p>
21/02/55	4	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That every defaulter in payinge in the tax of five shillings an acre, or any part thereof, 30 dayes after the tyme of payment thereof, shall by way of <i>novie pene</i> forfeite and pay the sum of 3s 4d in the pound to bee employed for the publique use of the Companie.</p>
21/02/55	5	<p>Ordered that Mr George Dalton the expendor shall receive, pay and issue out the tax of five shillings an acre this day sett and imposed accordinge to the severall summes and proportions lymitted and allowed to each respective levell unto each conservator in the said levells.</p>

6 The said Participants and Adventurers, taking in their consideration the preservation of the Great Levell of the Fennes, and of the navigation in and upon the same, find it requisite and necessary that the workes on the north levell bee repayed and done as followeth, that is to say the north bancke of Moretons Leame from Peterburgh to Guyhurne, old Southea bancke from Dowsdale to Crowland, the sea bancke at Tyd Goate, the bancke at Sternoake at Werrington townes ende, the Sheyre Dreyne from Clowes Crosse to Tid Sluce, the banke from Peakirke to Crowland, together with all forelands, drove wayes, were dikes, dreynes as also all sluces sasses and tonnells within the said levell. That the workes in the Middle levell be repaired and done as followeth, that is to say the north bancke of new Bedford River from Erith to Salters Loade, the south bancke of Moretons Leame from Stanground sasse to Baldwyn Glossomes howse nere Waldersey, Berry Bancke beginninge at the hard landes of Berry and endinge at Ramsey includinge a receptacle, the bankes of Holme receptacle together with all forelands, droves, waies, were dikes, dreynes as also all sluces, sasses, tonnells and bridges in the said Middle levell. That the workes in the South Levell bee repayed and done as followeth - the south banke of new Bedford River from Swavey to Salters Lode, the bankes on eyther side of the Rivers of Grant, Owze, Mildenhall, Brandon and Stoake, Downham Eau to bee so farr lengthened and amended as may preserve and perfecte the dreyninge of the said South Levell with convenient sasses and sluces there, and all sluces, sasses, tonnells, overfalls, dams, navigation bridges, were dikes, forelands, dreynes, receptacles for the rivers and brookes within the said South Levell. And for the purpose of landes in every of the said levells where it shall be requisite for doinge the said workes, doe therefore order and decree the said workes to be repaired, cleansed, scowred, made, mainteyned, takinge further into their consideration what further charge and sums of money will bee requisite for the doinge thereof, they find it requisite and necessary that a tax of five shillings an acre bee sett and layd upon every acres of the 95000 acres for and towards the makinge repayringe, scowring, mainteyninge and amendinge of the before mentioned workes. And the said taxes hereby sett and imposed accordingly shall bee paid to Mr George Dalton or the treasurer of the Company, for the tyme beinge at five severall payments in an order and forme followinge (that is to say the first payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said nynety five thousand acres at **[Page 183]** or upon the 1st daie of March now next ensuinge, the second payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres at or upon the 1st day of June, one thousand six hundred fiftie and five, the 3rd payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres at or upon the first day of September then next followinge, the 4th payment of twelve pence and acre upon every acres of the said 95000 acres at or upon the first day of February then next followinge and the 5th and last payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres at or upon the 1st day of August which shall bee in the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fiftie and six, which said tax of 5s an acre and every part thereof is to bee paid to the said George Dalton, as aforesaid, or the treasurer for the tyme beinge at his howse in Starr Court in the Butcher Row without Temple Barr in the County of Middlesex. And in default of payment of the said tax, or any part thereof, at any of the daies hereby appointed and the same, or any part thereof, soe contynuinge unpaid by the space of thirtie days after any of the said daies of payment, the said George Dalton or treasurer for the tyme beinge shall have power and authority to distreine upon or sequester the landes of the severall owners severally and respectively, accordinge unto their severall proportions of the said 95000 acres as well for the arreres of the said tax of five shillings, as also together with 2s in the pound for the charges occasioned by such distres rendering the overplus (if any bee) to the owner of such distres. And where noe sufficient distres shall bee found after the said thirty daies, the said Participants and Adventurers doe asseesse a penaltie of 3s 4d in the pound upon every such defaulter, the which said penaltie, together with the said tax soe in arrere, to bee levyed by the said George Dalton or the treasurer for the tyme

beinge. And forasmuch as this five shillings tax is like to amounte to the full revenue of the nyetie five thousand acres, the said Participants and Adventurers doe tax the persons, owners, proprietors and farmers of any tithes arising out of the said 95000 acres, five pence for every acre out of which hee shall receive any tithes to bee paid to the said George Dalton or the treasurer for the tyme being at the place aforesaid, as 5 severall payments, that is to say 1d att every of the said daies when the 12d is payable as aforesaid together with a rateable and proportionable penalty for non payment to bee levied by the same way and meanes as the severall payments of the said tax of five shillings an acre. And to the end all persons interested in the said 95000 acres may take notice of this tax, it is ordered that an extracte thereof bee forthwith affixed upon the usuall place where former orders of publique concernment have byn, usually affixed in wittenesse, whereof the said Partipants and Adventurers have here unto sett theire handes and seale.

W.Bedford
Ed Whalley
Richard Gorges
Thomas Chicheley
Anthony Samuell
Thomas Woodward

24/02/55 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trenchard, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Vermuyden, Mr.W.Weston, Mr Trafford, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr James Harrington, Mr Thomas Underwood, Mr Mainston, Mr Chicheley, Captaine Swanne, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood

24/02/55 2 **[Page 184]** The proposals of the inhabitants of the towne of Over to the Compay this day read over were as followeth viz -

1 That noe arreres of taxes bee charged upon the landes to bee conveyed to the towne because they are to pay onely £550 at the sealing of the conveyances

2 That the towne bee abated out of the £500, the sum of £30 or thereabouts expended by them in settinge a goate or tonnell for the conveyance of water from the River Owze to all the groundes of the towne, the antient passage havinge byn stopt by the great bancke

3 That they bee abated for rayles and barres sett by them as a fence betwixt Mr Crowes grownd and the townes land, eyther a passage allowed through by a gate upon the bancke or the way to Erith Fenne made over by a bridge and gravell

4 That the passage to Over Coate bee gravelled and made good at the charge of the Company

5 That upon supposition, the landes conveyed or redeemed bee all freed from the Companies taxes. Some equitable proportion of your owne bancke may bee charged upon the towne to mainteyne to the full height and strength of other parts and sufficient against inundation, to bee viewed and ordered from tyme to tyme by the officers of the Company but at the townes charge, and the towne thereby to bee freed from taxes.

Answer of the Company

1 To the 1st, the towne have had the possession of the land and the money and

therefore have byn at noe prejudice

2 To the 2nd, it is for their owne convenience and they must give security that the tonnell or goate by them sett downe may run at convenient seasons and not otherwise. And the officers of the Companie are to view what prejudices done by meanes thereof. And they are so far from granting this that they are in doubt whether they shall contynue of noe

3 This is not a question between them and the Companie but between them and Mr Drewry and others.

4 To the 4th, they say it is a comon passage for the Country and ought to bee mainteyned at their charge

5 This grownd is part of the 95000 acres and so they ought to contribute to all the workes of the levell accordinge to the Acte of Parliament as other landes doe.

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| 24/02/55 | 3 | Ordered that the Company doe resolve to buy of Captaine Breton that 60 acres part of 200 acres claymed by his Highnes the Lord Protector and are contented to give him three pound ten shillings an acre for the said land if the said Captain Breton will accept thereof. And Mr Latch desires to treat and conclude with the said Captain Breton for the same and to take an assurance thereof. And Mr Moore the surveyour is ordered to sett it forth accordingly. And whereas the Companie, beinge enformed that Mr Edmund Bell cannot make a tithe to the 140 acres residue of the said 200 acres, doe resolve that in case his Highnes shall thinke fitt to try the tithe for the said 140 acres, and to that purpose shall nominate what councill shall bee employed therein. The Companie will bee at the charge of the tryall. |
| 24/02/55 | 4 | Ordered that the £550 which is to bee received of the inhabitants of the towne of Over bee paid into the handes of the expeditor to bee issued out and applied for and towards the discharge and payment of a debt owinge to the towne of Denver, another debt owinge to the Lady Cutts, and other cryinge debts to the Company, and for and towards suytes and charges att law, in such manner as Mr Gorges, Mr Evelyn, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Say, Mr Henley, Mr Trafford, Mr Crane, Mr Latch and any three of more of them shall thinke fitt. |
| 24/02/55 | 5 | Ordeed that Mr Trenchard and all others as shall complain (to the committee appointed his day) of want of settinge out of land or want of devision dikes which they were fayne to make at their owne charge, the said committee, or any five of them, shall have power to give order to the surveyour to measure and take by the worke, and give order likewise to the expeditor so to reimburse them the money they have layd out accordingly, and this shall bee his warrant. |
| 24/02/55 | 6 | [Page 185] Upon a petition this daie delivered in by Mr William Palmer and read over to the Company, it is ordered that Mr Dalton the expeditor doe forthwith issue out and pay unto the said Mr Palmer one bill of three and fortie shillings, beinge disbursed by him to severall persons for leadinge his chayne in settinge out of grownds and meazuringe of lynes, and one other bill of fiftene poundes, fowerteene shillings and nyne pence, upon account and in full of his sallary ending the 10th of June last. In all the sum of seaventeene poundes, seaventeere shillings and nyne pence, the said Mr Dalton taking his receipt in full for the same and placinge it to account. |
| 27/02/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Say, Mr Trafford, Mr Trenchard, Mr Chicheley, Mr Thomas Woodward, Capatin Swanne, |

Alderman Underwood, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Latch, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Marsahm, Mr St John, Mr Gorges, Dr Fryer, Mr Breton, Mr Fountayne, Mr Bradley, Mr Bland

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| 27/02/55 | 2 | Ordered that the sum of £03.13.09 an acre shall bee paid by the Companie for 200 acres of those landes which were lately sold by Mr Secretary Thurloe unto Captain Breton to the intent his Highnes Lord Protector may have and enjoy the same in lieu of the 200 acres which hee claymeth of the Companie, and Mr Moore the surveyour is to sett out the said 200 acres forthwith, and conveyances are accordingly to bee drawne up and executed to such person or persons as Mr Secretary Thurloe shall thinke fitt to nominate and appointe. |
| 27/02/55 | 3 | That there shall bee by Lawes of Sewers drawne up and prepared accordinge to the Acte of Parliament and ordinances of the Councell, and that Mr Latch and Mr Palmer bee employed in the drawing up and preparinge the said bylawes of Sewers. |
| 27/02/55 | 4 | Order that for the future, all officers under each conservator, if every levell doe any tyme of flood or rise of water, send up an information or account thereof to the Company from tyme to tyme, to bee directed to the clarke of the Company who is to prepare a booke for entering of every such letter of information. |
| 01/03/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Gorges, Alderman Underwood, Alderman Titchborne, Alderman Alleyn, Mr Oxenbridge, Mr St John Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Chicheley, Captain Richard Blackwall, Mr Downinge, Mr Bland |
| 01/03/55 | 2 | [Page 186] Upon the motion of the right honorable the Earle of Bedford that the two thousand poundes allowed for the doing of the workes in North Levell is not sufficient for the perfecting thereof, but that a greater sum will be necessary, it is ordered that the Company will take the same into their consideration at the first meeting of the next terme att which tyme the conservators are desired to bringe in their accounts |
| 01/03/55 | 3 | Ordered that the tax of 5s and acre now engrossed bee reade over to the Companie for their approbation. |
| 01/03/55 | 4 | Resolved

That the tax of 5s an acre now read over shall bee drawne up into such a forme as Mr Gorges, Mr Henley and Mr Bland or any two of them shall thinke fitt and forthwith to bee tendered to severall members of the Company to bee sealed and entered |
| 01/03/55 | 5 | The Company doe adjourne to meete againe at Mr Henleys howse on Monday next at 8 a clocke in the forenoone and Comissary Generall Whalley is to have notice thereof. |
| 05/03/55 | 1 | At Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barre

Earle of Bedford, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Mr Vermuyden, Mr B.Arthur |
| 05/03/55 | 2 | Resolved and ordered

That the Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorge and Mr Hamond or any two of them bee desired from the Companie to meete upon the place and consider of the whole workes in the South Levell, in perticuler the new work of lengthening and enlarginge of Downham Eau, and likewise of all other workes as are necessary to bee done in that levell, and are desired to call to their assistance whome they shall thinke fitt. |

05/03/55	3	Resolved	That the Company will recomend to Comissary Generall Whalley a fitt person under him as shall take the care and circumspection of the South Levell to observe such orders and directions as from tyme to tyme hee shall receive from the Companie
05/03/55	4		Upon the desire of Comissary Generall Whalley that the Company would nominate a fit person under him as his deputy to stand charged with the money within his levell, and Mr Hamond beinge named as a fitt person for that purpose, the Companie thought not fitt to resolve anythinge therein but doe order that the sollicitor of the Companie doe waite upon Comissary Generall Whalley to know whether hee thinks fitt to recomende Mr Hamond or any other person for that employment.
09/03/55	1	[Page 187]	At Mr Henleys howse without Temple Barr Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley, Mr Chicheley, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland Forasmuch as Mr Bland, the sollicitor for the Company, doe this day make report to the Company that hee waytes on Comissary Generall Whalley according to an order of the 8th of this instant and that the said Comissary Generall Whalley doth recomend the Company Mr Hamond as the fittest person to bee his deputy for the south levell, the Companie doe thereupon approve of the said Mr Hamond for the imployment aforesaid, and hee is to stand charged with and to bee accomptable for all such monyes as hee shall receive of the Companies treasurer or receiver for the tyme beinge.
10/03/55	1		Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Anhtony Samuell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Trafford, Mr Holworthy
10/03/55	2		Ordered that the clarke write a letter to Cambridge to the Lord Chief Justice St John, giving his Lordshipp notice of their order made 8th March instant desiring his Lordshipp to send word what tyme hee intends to bee at Sir Raph Hares to the ende Mr Gorges and Mr Hamond may have notice and with all to acquainte his Lordshipp that the 5s tax is sealed by 5 or more Adventurers havinge 500 acres a peece at the least.
14/03/55	1		Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Trafford, Mr Walker
14/03/55	2		The Company doe adjourne to meete againe at the place aforesaid on Wednesday next, beinge 28 th March instant, at 3 of the clocke in the afternoone and so every Wednesdaie in the weeke untill further order.
16/03/55	1		Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Fountayne, Mr Adams, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Latch, Mr Gorges, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bradley
16/03/55	2	[Page 188]	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Elliot, desiring him to goe upon the place and take a view of the dike that devides Honey farme from Mr Adams his 100 acres adjoyninge upon Hony farme, beinge parcell of the 400 acres in the 2nd lott. And after hee hath viewed the same to enquire who ought of right to mainteyne it, and whether or noe the Company are obliged to doe it.

16/03/55	3	Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Hamond to desire him to enquire of the damage done both to the salt and fresh dores of the great sasse upon the end of Owze which Peter Anthony lookes to, and are forthwith to acquaint the Company by whose default, negligence or willfulnes the damage has byn, to the end the Company may require reparation and that forthwith they may bee repayed.
23/03/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Bridges, Mr Latch, Mr Woodward, Mr Adams, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bland
04/04/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Adams, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr Fr Mussoe, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Walker
04/04/55	2	This daie Colonell Samuell Jones moved the Company that they would endeavor to prohibit the importation of cole seede oyles from foreigne parts into England for the prejudice may thereby redowned to the whole Companie, but that they would joyne with the Groeneland Company in transportinge of English cole seede oyles into other partes. Whereupon the Company desired the said Colonell Jones against their next meetinge to bringe in (to that purpose) a proposition in writinge for them to consider of.
04/04/55	3	Whereas it beinge this daie enformed that certaine land belonginge to William Adams Esquire in the 6th lott lyinge in or nere Mepall is in order to the workes cutt away and damaged by makinge back floores and banckes, it is therefore ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe with all convenient speede take a view of the said grownd and measure how much thereof is so cutt away and prejudiced, and there upon certifie the Companie to the end satisfaction may bee given accordingly
04/04/55	4	Whereas it was also enformed that certaine land belonginge to Sir Henry Henne in the 11th lott was cutt away and prejudiced by makeinge of Roxam Dreyne, it is ordered that Mr Jonas Moore doe with all convenient speede goe upon the place and admeasure how much and is so cutt away and damaged, and thereupon certifie the Companie to the ende hee may receive satisfaction.
04/04/55	5	Whereas Mr Trafford, as is enformed, wantest 35 acres of measure in Bynnmoore parcell of his proportion allotted in the 9th lott, it is therefore ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe goe upon the place and admeasure how much land is wantinge, and there upon certifie the Companie to the end such order may bee taken as shall seeme needed.
04/04/55	6	[Page 189] Whereas it was informed that George Pierpoint Esquire wantest 9 acres of land about Warboys in the 19th lott, it is therefore ordered that Mr Jonas Moore the surveyour doe with all convenient speede take a view of the place and admeasure how much land is wantinge to make up the proportion hee ought to have, and thereupon make his certificatie to the Company, whereupon such order shall bee taken as shall seeme needed.
04/04/55	7	Memorand that the Companie bee desired to take into their consideration att their next generall meetinge the imployinge of Mr Baraine Westerdike for his advice and direction and assistance touchinge the Great Levell and allowing him a fitt recompence for the same. In the meane tyme, Colonell Sam Jones is desired to speake with Mr Vandepau, the merchant, to write to the said Baraine Westerdike to know if the Company have a mynde to send for him, whether of noe hee will come to them for the purpose aforesaid, and how long hee will stay and what reward hee will demand, eyther by the month, quarter or yeare.

04/04/55	8	Upon the motion of William Adams Esquire in the busines of Mr Gardner and upon readinge of the last order made therein, it is ordered that at the generall meetinge of the Company before the end of the next terme, Mr Thomas Holman doe shew what prooffe and testimony hee can that the letter of attorney alledged by him was duly executed and whether the debt therein mentioned was a reall debt, and likewise shew cause why the money due to Mr Adams for rent from the said Gardner ought not to bee paid to the said Mr Adams out of that money is due to him from the Company, and Mr Thomas Holman is to have tymely notice of this order.
11/04/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Evelyn, Mr Say, Mr Vermuyden, Mr Trafford
11/04/55	2	The Company being this daie enformed that the south bancke of Bedford River is very much rooted up and spoiled with hogges by such as keepe howses on the same to the great prejudice of the said bancke and the utter destruction thereof unles tymely prevented, it is therefore ordered that the conservator of the South Levell or his agents bee desired to forbid all such person or persons to keepe any hogges upon the said bancke, and in case they shall refuse to yield obedience thereunto within a fortnight after notice given, then in the name of the Companie to signifie that theire howses shall bee pulled downe and such course taken as the Company shall thinke fitt. And the like care is desired by each conservator in his levell for all other cattell that may bee destructive to the banckes in generall.
18/04/55	1	Mr Henley Snr, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford, Colonell Samuel Jones, Mr Bridges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Fortrey, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Adams
18/04/55	2	Diverse merchants of the Groenland Company came this day and made theire request to the Company to joyne with them for the confirmation and puttinge in due execution of certaine orders and an ordnance of Parliament obteyned by them for prohibitinge the importation of oyles, whereupon they were desired to withdraw. And beinge called in the Companie retorned them thanks and passed this vote followinge viz - Resolved upon the question That the Companie of Adventurers will joyne the Groenland Companie for the promotinge of severall orders and ordinances of Parliament this day read over touchinge the prohibitinge the importation of oyles into this Comonwealth.
18/04/55	3	[Page 190] Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Trenchard, Mr William Weston, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr Marsham, Mr Adams and Mr Bridges bee added to the committee named in the order of the 24th February last touchinge devision dikes and settinge out the land, and they or any five of the are desired to meete in pursuance of the said order on Wednesday next at one of the clocke in the afternoone
18/04/55	4	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Trafford, Mr Holworthy, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Sayer, Colonell Sam Jones, Mr Say, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bland
18/04/55	5	In pursuance of an order of the 6th Aprill 1655 made att Downham and of another of the 16th of Aprill 1655 this day read over to the Companie, it is ordered (being put to the question) that the new 200 foote river to bee made in the Wash from Welney to Salters Loade for this yeare shall bee layd out and made accordinge to the said order of the 16th Aprill made att Downham, and the charge thereof is to bee equally borne

by the South and Middle Levell, that is to say that but 100 foote wide whereof is to passe through low growndes, and for a myle or there abouts where it is to pass through higher growndes it shall bee made 150 foote wide, whereupon the expeditor is to make payes accordingly

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| 18/04/55 | 6 | Whereas it beinge enformed by the sollicitor of the Companie that Mildenhall drove way is cut and prejudiced by Symon Suckerman and one Paine in contempt of the Acte of Parliament and ordynance of the Councell in that behalfe made, it is ordered that the said cutt bee forthwith filled and made up againe, and the said sollicitor, as well in this as in all other like cases where any person or persons shall presume to oppose the said Acte of Parliament and ordynance, shall hereby have full power and authority to sue, impleade and prosecute every such person or persons upon the account of the Company |
| 02/05/55 | 1 | Mr Henley Snr, Mr Hamond, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Trafford, Mr William Weston, Mr Evelyn, Mr Vermuyden, Mr James Harrington, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Say, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Chicheley, Mr William Drewry, Mr Bland |
| 02/05/55 | 2 | Whereas Anthony Samuell Esquire this day acquainted the Company that Comissary Generall Whalley, by him, did make it his request to the Company that, in regard of his multiplicity of occasions in relation to the publique affaires of the Comon Wealth, hee could not attend the care and conservation of the South Levell and therefore did desire him to recomende to the Company the Lord Cheife Justice St John to bee conservator of the said South Levell in the roome and stead of the said Comissary Generall Whalley, whereupon the question beinge put whether yea or noe the Lord Chiefe Justice St John shall bee desired to take upon him the care and conservatorship of the said South Levell, it was resolved in the affirmative and the Company doe desire the said Anthony Samuell, Mr Say, Mr Chichely, Mr Evelyn and Mr Trafford to wayte upon his Lordshipp with this order. |
| 02/05/55 | 3 | [Page 191] Ordered that Mr Dalton receivor of the Companie doe forthwith issue out and pay unto Mr Thomas Bland, sollicitor of the Company, upon account the sum of one hundred poundes, takinge his receipt and placinge it in accoumpt |
| 02/05/55 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Dalton doe forthwith pay and issue out to Sir Edward Patherich the sum of forty shillings which hee formerly layd out for the service of the Company |
| 08/05/55 | 1 | Att the Lord Chiefe Justice St John his chamber in Lincolns Inn

Earle of Bedford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Henley Snr, Colonell Robert Castell, Colonell Valentine Walton, Mr Trenchard, Mr Crane, Mr Chicheley, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Bland |
| 08/05/55 | 2 | Upon readinge of an order of the 27th of February last for payment of £03.13.09 an acre unto Captain Breton for the purchase of 200 acres in the 10th lott to the intent his Highnes the Lord Protector may have and enjoy the same in lieu of the 200 acres hee claymeth of the Companie, as soone as a conveyance thereof was executed to such person or persons as shall bee named by Mr Secretary Thurloe, now forasmuch as Sir Gilbert Pickering Barronet and Nathaniell Waterhowse Esqr were named by him and a conveyance of the said land is allready sealed and delivered by the parties on both sides, it is ordered and agreed that the sum of £737.10, the consideration money, shall bee paid and satisfied unto the said Captain Breton by the receivor of the Companie before Whitsontyde next. |

12/05/55	1	Att a meetinge at the Lord Chief Justice St John his chamber in Lincolnes Inn Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Marsham, Colonell Valentine Walton, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Vermuyden, Dr Fryer, Mr Chicheley, Mr William Weston, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Goffe, Mr James Harrington, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Arthur Samuell, Alderman Gale, Mr Page, Mr Say, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Anthony, Mr Trenchard, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Crane, Mr Trafford, Mr Bland
12/05/55	2	Ordered that the severall orders made at Downham in Norffolke in or about March last bee effectually prosecuted and put in execution. In the meane tyme, Mr Moore the surveyour is hereby ordered to send up to the clarke duplicates of the said severall orders in his custody to the intent they may bee entered in the book of orders of the Company
12/05/55	3	Ordered that Comissary Generall Whalley bee desired still to contynue his care and preservation of the South Levell, and upon his nomination and request, it is ordered that Major Anthony Evelyn bee imployed as deputie conservator of the levell who shall from tyme to tyme have power to nominate such person or persons under him as hee shall thinke fitt.
12/05/55	4	[Page 192] Ordered that 3 a clocke in the afternoone on Thursday next bee a tyme appointed perticularly to take into consideration the arreres and some effectuall course of bringinge in the same, together with the last tax of 5s an acre, sooner then by the order of taxes appointed, as also some course for raisinge of money
17/05/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Colonell Valentine Walton, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Crane, Mr Trafford, Dr Fryer, Mr Carill, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Chicheley, Mr Evelyn, Captain Breton, Alderman Underwood, Mr William Weston, Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood, Captain Swann, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr B.Arthur, Sir Edward Partherich, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Gorges, Mr Marsham, Mr Bland
17/05/55	2	Resolved That the Companie will borrow £9500 at interest to bee paid and layd out att 4 severall payments upon the workes this somer, they beinge necessitated to advance the 2 last payments of the 5d tax which amounts to the said sum
17/05/55	3	Resolved That the sum of £9500 which shall bee borrowed and taken up att interest shall bee paid in to the Company 15th June, 16 of July, 15 of August and 1st of October next to bee issued out and paid by the expendor upon each levell in such manner as is appointed by the order of the 5s tax.
17/05/55	4	Resolved That the 2 last payments of the 5s tax lately shall bee offered as security for the payment of the £9500 which shall bee take up att interest
17/05/55	5	Resolved That a tax of 3d an acre shall bee offered as additional security for payment of the £9500 which shall bee taken up att interest

17/05/55	6	Resolved	That the 300 acres in Wicken now in the hands of the Company bee added to the said security
17/05/55	7	Ordered that Mr Aldermand Underwood, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Alderman Gale, Mr Henley and Mr Noell bee desired to advance the sum of £9500 for the use of the Companie or else to consider of making some other proposition for the raisinge thereof. And they are desired to meete at Mr Henleys howse in regard of his indisposition to goe abroad. And the clarke of the Companie is to attend them with copies of the said severall orders and to know when they will appointe a meetinge to the intent the Company may bee acquainted with the result thereof att their next meetinge or Thursday next as 3 aclocke in the afternoone	
17/05/55	8	To the proposalls of Mr Fynnes this daie in writinge, read over to the Company, they made this answer that in regard the busines was long agoe dependinge, they could not at present bee able to retorne a certaine answer thereunto without consultinge their bookes or accoumpts and conferringe with some others of the Company who were better acquainted with the busines, but as soone as they were further informed they would sett downe a certain daie to take the same into consideration, and notice there of should bee left to the clarke	
17/05/55	9	Ordered that Mr Hamond and Mr Arthur Evelyn bee hereby authorized and desired to treat and finally conclude with the Lady Cutts touchinge 3 acres of land nere Swavey, cutt away and prejudiced by makeinge of new Bedford River, and what they shall doe therein the Company will ratifie and confirme	
17/05/55	10	Ordered that the petition of the inhabitants of the towne of Swavey bee likewise referred to the consideration of Anthony Hamond and Arthur Evelyn esquires who are desired to treat wth the said inhabitants and conclude with them in order to their accomodation, and the Companie will approve thereof	
17/05/55	11	[Page 193] Upon readinge the petition of Thomas Curtis of Brandon, minister, it is ordered that the same bee referred to Arthur Evelyn Esquire on the behalfe of the Company and hee stand well on the behalfe of the petitioner who are desired to meete upon the place and take a view thereof and consider what prejudice is done to the petitioner and certifie the Company to the ende satisfaction may bee given to the petitioner.	
17/05/55	12	Ordered that the sum of £737.10.00, formerly ordered by the order of the 8th of May instant, shall within theis 2 months bee paid unto Captain Breton out of the money due to the Companie from the inhabitants of the towne of Wisbich with consideration from 27 March last untill the same bee paid, whereupon the said Captain Breton now present is contented and doth accept thereof	
17/05/55	13	Ordered that it bee taken into consideration att the next meetinge of the Company how well the banckes throughout the whole levell may bee repayed and mainteyned by perticuler Adventurers, as also to consider whether it is fitt for the Companie to disert Brotherhowse bancke and goe by Dowsdale	
17/05/55	14	Upon readinge the petition of Mr Michael Morssell and Lancelott Burrell desiringe the sum of twenty poundes to bee paid to them in regard they have given satisfacton as they did alledge to all interests accordinge to the Lords Comissioners order of 27 May 1651, it is order that Mr Bland the sollicitor doe peruse the petitions, writings and certifie the state of the case to the Company att their next meetinge on Thursday	

next to the ende the petitioners may receive satisfaction.

- 24/05/55 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Chicheley, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Hamond, Dr Fryer, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Crane, Mr Sam Smith, Colonell Goffe, Major Blake, Mr Trafford, Mr William Weston, Mr Gorges, Mr Sheriffe Alleyn, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Say, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Major Styles
- 24/05/55 2 Ordered that it bee referred to the right honorable the Earle of Bedford, Major Alexander Blake, Mr Hamond and Lieutenantt Colonell Francis Underwood or any two or more of them to treat and agree with Colonell Valentyne Walton and the land owners on Porland touchinge the present repayre and future mayntenance of Brotherhose Bancke, and in case noe agreement bee made by the 14th of June next, then the conservator of the North Levell shall proceede to the repayre and maintenance of Dowsdale Bancke
- 24/05/55 3 Ordered that Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Mr Alderman Gale, Mr Henley and Mr Noell bee desired to meete together and consult and propose to the Companie what security will be accepted by themselves or such others as they shall thinke fitt for the raisinge of the sum of £9500, and to give the Company a meetinge tomorrow att 5 a clocke in the afternoone
- 24/05/55 4 Ordered that Mr Fountayne, Mr Henley and Mr Hamond or any two of them bee desired from the Company to treat and conclude with Mr Fynnes in relation to his demands lately delivered to the Company, and that they would appointe a tyme to heare and determyn the same, and the clarke of the Companie is to attend them with the orders, mappes and writinges relatinge there unto, and what they shall doe therein the Companie will ratifie and confirme
- 24/05/55 5 Upon readinge the petition fo Mr Robert Clapthorne of Whittlesey thereby shewing that 3 acres 1 rod 29 perches of land nere Northey gravell about 3 years last past were taken away from him by the makinge of the north bank of Moretons Leame, for which as yet noe satisfaction at all hath byn given and for which the petitioner named a competent satisfaction, the Companie, taking the same into consideration and upon readinge of the last order of the 5th of May 1654 made therein (a copie whereof is heretofore annexed). It is ordered that Major Alexander Blake and Mr Gabriell Elliott bee desired to persue the direction given by the said order and accordingly to certifie the Company.
- 24/05/55 6 Ordered that the twenty poundes which is to bee paid by Colonell Thomas Castell of Haddenham shall bee received without costs by Mr Bland solicitor who is thereupon to deliver up his bill entred into the Company
- 24/05/55 7 **[Page 194]** Ordered that the petition of Henry Fynnimore now read over (a copie whereof is hereunto annexed) bee referred to Major Alexander Blake and Mr Gabriell Elliott who are desired to take a view of the land alledged by the petitioner to bee cutt, spoiled and made comon, and certifie the quantity thereof, and what is fitt for the Company to doe therein to the end the petitioner may receive satisfaction.
- 24/05/55 8 Ordered that the sum of one hundred and eightie poundes due by decree to the Company from the land owners on the north side of Wisbich bee paid unto Captain Breton, and his acquittance for receipt thereof shall bee a sufficient discharge.
- 24/05/55 9 Ordered that the Companie doe adjourne to meete againe at the place aforesaid tomorrow at 5 a clocke in the afternoone, perticularly to take into consideration what

security will bee demanded for raising the sum of £9500

- 25/05/55 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mt Sheriffe Alleyn, Mr Robert Henley jn, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Walker, Mr Bland
- 25/05/55 2 The Company doe adjourne to meete againe on Tuesday next all the place aforesaid att 3 a clocke in the afternoone
- 29/05/55 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Sheriffe Alleyn, Mr Gorges, Mr Noell, Mr Crane, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Robert Henley jn, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland
- 29/05/55 2 Whereas by order of 17th of May instant the Companie of Adventurers did resolve to borrow the sum of £9500 for the carryinge on the great and necessary affayres of the workes of dreyninge, for the supply whereof the 5d tax lately sett will not be tyme enough brought in and raised, and whereas diverse propositions have byn offered to the Companie for the raisinge the aforesaid sum, none of which could take any effecte, now the Adventurers whose names are here under written, takinge in to serious consideration the Companyes absolute necessity for supply of money to carry on their great workes this somer, allready undertaken out of their tender care and great affection to the worke, have agreed to advance the severall sums and engage the severall quantites of land hereafter named, which sums, soe advanced and moneyes for which the landes shall bee so engaged, are to bee secured and paid unto the parties so engaging and advancinge out the two last payments of the said 5s tax and a 12d tax more as an additional security is to bee imposed

I doe engage for 1000 acres in 17 lott - Oliver St John

I doe engage for 1000 acres - Robert Henley

I doe engage for 500 acres - W Say

I doe engage for 500 aces - W Crane

I doe engage for 300 acres of 15 lott for £300 - Richard Gorges

I doe engage for 800 acres in Towne Moores for the raisinge of £800 so that my owne taxes bee perticularly assigned towards any security - W. Underwood

[Page 195] I doe engage for 300 acres for raising £300 so that my owne taxes bee my security - Thomas Alleyn

I doe engage 300 acres of 17th lott for £300 - Robert Castell

I Martyn Noell doe engage to provide and lend £500 to this designe - M Noell

I doe engage 100 acres in 15th lott for £10p - John Fryer

I doe engage for 100 acres in 16th lott - Thomas Bland

I doe engage for 300 acres in 14th lott for £300 - Thomas Chicheley

I doe engage for 405 acres in 15th lott - Thomas Culpeper

I doe engage for 100 acres in 11th lott - M. Holworthy

I doe engage to advance my tax whensoever demanded upon the abatement of interest for the tyme - Robert Titchborne

I doe the like - Mark Hildesley

I doe engage for 200 acres in 1st lott - Thomas Woodward

I Arthur Samuell doe engage to provide and lend £400 to this designe and to pay in the same to the expeditor upon 14 of June 1655

I doe engage for 250 acres in the 8th lott - Ed Whalley

I doe engage for 200 acres in 18th lott - W. Goffe

Major Arthur Evelyn under his hand hath engaged for 450 acres in the washes in the 4th and 5th lott - Arthur Evelyn

I doe engage for 250 acres in Easymoore in the [] lott - Sir Edward Partherich

I doe engage for 400 acres in 6th lott - Robert Lane

I doe engage for 396 acres in Warboys and Feltwell in the 14th lott so that my owne

taxes bee my security - G.Gerard
 I doe engage for 500 acres in 10th lott - W.St John
 I doe engage for 124 acres in Wisbich Comon in the 19th lott - Henry Henne
 I doe engage for 400 acres in Crowland in Lincolnesheyre formerly Mr Frosts land -
 Valentyn Walton

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| 29/05/55 | 3 | Ordered that the clarke of the Companie attend the rest of the members of the Company now in towne and acquaint them what hath byn this day done and to desire that they would eyther advance money or engage their land or some part thereof in order to the raisinge the sum of £9500 for the present necessity of the Company by subscribing their names |
| 29/05/55 | 4 | Lord Chief Justice St John, Comissary Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Crane, Dr Fryer, Mr Arthur Samuell, Sir Henry Henne, Robert Castell Esqr, Colonell William Goffe, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Bland |
| 29/05/55 | 5 | Ordered that a letter bee forthwith written to Mr Dalton to lett him know the Companie desire hee would not faile of makinge paies at the next day appointed, for the Company here have engaged to raise mony and mony is already raised so that hee may charge bills for what sum or sums hee shall thinke fitt and with all to encourage the workemen that they should vigorously proceede in the workes for they should bee supplied with mony. |
| 29/05/55 | 6 | The like letter to Major Evelyn, Major Blake and Mr Elliott

Ordered that a tax of 12d an acre bee and is hereby sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres for the repairinge, mainteyninge and amendinge of the works in the Great Levell of the Fennes, to bee paid at one entyre payment the 3rd January 1656 and the tyme of forfeiture to be on the 5th of February next followinge. |
| 29/05/55 | 7 | [Page 196] The Companie doe hereby order, declare and agree that the tax of 12d an acre this day sett shall bee an additional security to all such person or persons that have or shall advance any sum or sums of money or that have or shall engage their landes or personall security for or towards the raising the sum of £9500 |
| 29/05/55 | 8 | Ordered that all such Adventurers or others that have or shall advance any sum or sums of mony in pursuance of the order of 17th of May instant for advancing of the too last payments of the tax of 5s an acre or have engaged or shall engage their land or personall security towards the raisinge the sum of £9500, shall all of them bee secured by the severall proportions of land which the severall Adventurers have by their subscriptions engaged for security for the raisinge the said sum and shall bee further secured by the said 2 last payments of the said 5s tax due 4th of March 1655 and the 3rd September 1656, as also by the 12d tax now sett accordinge to the agreement made at the last meetinge of the Company. |
| 29/05/55 | 9 | Ordered that all person or persons that shall by land, mony or personall security engage themselves for the raising the aforesaid sum of £9500, the whole security entered into as aforesaid shall bee lyable and stand charged to every perticuler person untill principall and interest bee repaid. |
| 29/05/55 | 10 | Ordered that the forme of an acquittance this day read over shall bee given to all such person or persons that have advanced or shall advance any sum or sums of money in order to the raisinge the two last payments of the tax of 5s an acre, which acquittance shall bee to every of them a sufficient discharge. |

29/05/55	11	Ordered that the two last payments of the tax of 5s an acre, amountinge to the sum of £9500, now raised or to bee raised shall bee repaid unto the severall persons engaging or subscribinge for the same at or before the first daie of November 1656.
29/05/55	12	Ordered that Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Henley, Mr Sheriffe Alleyn and Mr Noell or any two of them bee desired to attend Mr Jeffrey Palmer in the draft of a conveyance for security of such person or persons that have engaged theire land or that shall raise or bring in the said £9500, and Mr Alderman Holdesley and Mr Alderman Titchborne are desired to assist them.
02/06/55	1	Att Mr Henleys howse nere Temple Barr Mr Henley Snr, Mr Crane, Mr Thomas Woodward, Mr Walker, Mr Henley Jnr
02/06/55	2	Ordered that the Companie doe meete againe on Wednesday next at the place aforesaid at 9 a clocke in the forenoone
06/06/55	1	Colonell Generall Whalley, Mr Henley Snr, Colonell William Goffe, Mr Crane, Mr Thomas Woodward
06/06/55	2	[Page 197] Ordered that Mr Henley, Mr Noell and Mr Crane bee desired to attend Mr Jeffrey Palmer with the draft of a conveyance, now read over, for the security of those that have advanced or shall advance the sum of £9500 for the use of the Companie to the intent the same may bee drawne up in due force of late, and they are also desired to receive his advice therein and give him his fee.
06/06/55	1	Att the Lord Chiefe Justice St John his chamber in Lincolnes Inn there beinge noe meetings at Mr Henleyes howse Mr Gorges, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Crane, Mr Weston, Mr Bland
06/06/55	2	Ordered that the Company of Adventurers for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes doe adjourne to meet againe at the Lord Chief Justice St John his chamber in Lincolnes Inn on Monday next, beinge the eighteenth daie of June one thousand six hundred fiftie and five att three of the clocke in the afternoone
18/06/55	1	Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Arthur Samuell, Colonell W.Goffe. Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Henley, Mr Lane, Sir Thomas Hampson, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Bland
18/06/55	2	Ordered that Comissary Generall Whalley bee desired to write a letter to Major Evelyn to take order that a convenient way may bee forthwith lockspitted out of 3000 acres or thereabouts, taken out of Methwold and Feltwell for the accomodation of the Adventurers there in concerned.
18/06/55	3	Upon readinge two certificates under the hand of Mr Jonas Moore, Mr Lake and William Phillips certifyinge that there is due to Gregory Gawsell Esqr for dikes done by him att Eastny Fenne and Bevills Leame the sum of £19.14.11, which ought to bee repaid him by the Company, it is ordered that Mr Dalton doe take care to repay the same out of the old arrere due before the last 18d tax taking his receipt and placinge it to account.
18/06/55	1	Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Noell, Mr Latch, Mr Crane, Mr Breton, Mr Mulsoe

18/06/55	2	[Page 198] Mr Henley and Mr Noell, now present, taking into consideration the order of the Company for the raisinge the sum of £9500, doe agree and propose to the Company that for their parts they are willinge to joyne with Alderman Alleyn and Alderman Underwood for the raising the said sum and to accept of the proposition for engaging the severall Adventurer landes underwritten as they shall be advised by Councell to have a conveyance executed. And in case the said Alderman Alleyn and Alderman Underwood shall refuse to joyne in security and being in their equall proportions of the said sum, then they, the said Mr Henley and Mr Noell, will each of them beare and pay downe for the use of the Company their equall parts or shares of the said £9500. And they further propose that the Company would make them an order accordingly. And that the penalties sett or to bee sett upon those that shall make default of payinge the 2 last payments of the 5s tax may bee wholly transferred unto them to order and dispose thereof as they shall thinke fitt, and that every Adventurer that hath advanced or shall advance more or lesse of the said sum of £9500 shall and may have the like security, and the Clarke is to attend Mr Alderman Alleyn and Mr Alderman Underwood with this proposition to know what they please to doe therein.
18/06/55	3	Ordered that Mr Ellyott bee desired to goe upon the place and take order that the 300 acres in Glatton and Holme may bee forthwith scowred out and devided from the Country, and appointe what dreyne shall bee made, and that the tennants pay the charge thereof out of their rent.
21/06/55	1	Mr Gorges, Mr Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Noell, Mr Henley jn, Mr Walker
21/06/55	2	Ordered that Mr Henley shall have liberty to make a tonnell in the bancke att Guyhurne to lett freshwater into his grownd which now is in lease to Henry Finnimore, provided that hee gives security to the Company that if any damage or prejudice redownd to them, thereby hee will bee answerable for the same which hee hath agreed to doe by settinge his hand to the order
25/06/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Anthonay Samuell, Sir Hnery Henne, Mr Gorges, Mr Dr Fryer, Colonell Walton, Mr Andrew Henley
25/06/55	2	Ordered that the 1st £500 that shall bee raised and come into the handes of the receivor of the Company shall bee applyed and paid unto Mr Crane by way of reimbursement of what hee hath lent to the Companie
25/06/55	3	Whereas Colonell Valentyne Walton this daie made it his request to the Companie that they would repaire Brotherhowse Bancke and disert Dowsdale Bancke and to this proposition the said Colonell Walton doth offer fortie poundes per annum toward the repaire thereof which the Adventurers, taking this into consideration, doe consent there unto do, as the rest of the owners of the Porland and such, as shall receive benefit thereby, will thereunto contribute accordinge to the said offer made by Colonell Walton. It is ordered that in case the Companie shall receive satisfaction from the Comissioners of Sewers or owners of the land, and such as shall [Page 199] receive benefitt thereby, that they will contribute according to their proportions and give notice thereof to John Hopkinson Clarke of the Company at his chamber at new Inn at or before the 16th day of July next that then the Company will proceede to repaire of the said Brotherhowse Bancke
25/06/55	4	Ordered that Edward Gay of Wickin, yeoman shall have lease of the 300 acres on Wicken Sedge Fenn in the 14th lott to commence from our Lady Daie last for one whole yeare ending at our Lady Daie 1656 for the yearley rent of fortie pounds, to bee

paid att two payments, twenty poundes or one moytie thereof, at or upon the 1st day of November next and twenty poundes or the other moytie thereof at or upon the 25th of March 1656.

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| 27/06/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Henley Snr |
| 27/06/55 | 2 | Ordered that Mr George Dalton receivor of the Companie doe tomorrow morninge attend Mr Alderman Underwood and receive from him the sum of five hundred poundes which hee hath agreed to advance for the good of the Companie, which sum of money is so advanced Mr Dalton is to take care that it may be discompted out of the said Alderman Underwoods next taxes as they grow due and hee is to have interest for the same after the rate of six poundes in the hundred. |
| 28/06/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Henley Jnr, Mr Bland |
| 28/06/55 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Noell, Mr Timms, Mr Breton and Captain Swan bee desired, each of them, to send the Companie of Adventurers six hundred poundes upon the security offered by the Company, together with a tax of 12d an acre as an additionall security with interest after the rate of six poundes in the hundred, and the clarke of the Companie is to attend them, and desire they would meete at the place aforesaid tomorrow at six a clocke in the afternoone to deliver in their answer hereunto. |
| 28/06/55 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Bland take care to write a letter to Mr Hamond to desire him on the behalfe of the Company to come up to towne and attend the Comissioners at their meetinge in the Middle Temple Hall the 7th daie after this terme |
| 29/06/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Henley, Mr Noell, Mr Walker |
| 29/06/55 | 2 | <p>[Page 200] Whereas severall Adventurers have subscribed to an order to 29th May last to bringe in money or engage severall proportions of land in order to the raisinge the sum of £9500, now it is hereby declared by the parties whose names are here underwritten and have engaged their landes for the purpose aforesaid that they will bringe in such sum or sums of money as they have hereunto engaged themselves by subscribinge their names</p> <p>I doe engage to bringe in £800 - W.Bedford
 I doe engage to bringe in £500 - O.St John
 I doe engage for myself and my sonnes £2000 - Robert Henley
 I doe engage for myselfe and Captain Blackwall - £400 - Clement Oxenbridge
 I doe engage to bring in my hundred poundes and to pay it to Mr Dalton the receivor of the Company att Cambridge discomptinge and taxes £100 - Sam Spalding
 I doe engage to lend six hundred poundes - Martin Noell
 Out of the mony due to and from the Companie, I doe engage to lend £500 1st November 1655 and no longer - Thomas Breton
 I doe engage to lend £600 - Mathew Temms
 I doe engage to lend the Company £300 so as my owne taxes bee discompted - Robert Staunton
 I shall endeavour to provide a hundred poundes - Robert Castell
 I doe engage to lend the Companie two hundred poundes my owne taxes dicompted - Richard Swan
 I doe engage to lend the Company £400 so as my one taxes bee discompted - W.St John
 I doe promise to be bound for £100 my owne taxes discompted - R.Hampson</p> |

I doe engage to lend the Company the sum of two hundred poundes so as my owne taxes be discoumpted - William Adams

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| 02/07/55 | 1 | Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Staunton, Mr Crane |
| 02/07/55 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Dalton receivor of the Companie doe with all convenient speede repaire to the severall persons who have subscribed theire names and engaged to bring in theire money, to the intent hee may demande and receive the same of every person so subscribinge respectively, giving them receipts accordingly |
| 04/07/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Crane, Mr Arthur Samuell, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Walker, Mr Bland |
| 04/07/55 | 2 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor of the Companie doe forthwith issue out unto Mr Bland the sollicitor of the Companie the sum of twenty poundes for the defrayinge the charges of examination of witnesses upon the Comission touchinge Palmer Fenne. |
| 04/07/55 | 3 | Ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour doe take espetiall care to make an exact mappe of Palmer Fenne, from and how it is butt end and bounded, as also to search out the antient mappes of the fenne which are in his custodie to the end they may bee produced at the examination of witnesses and at the tryall |
| 04/07/55 | 4 | [Page 201] Ordered that the clarke of the Companie take care that the whole Companie now in towne may be sumoned to meete at the Lord Chief Justice St John's chamber in Lincolns Inne on Monday next att 3 a clocke in the afternoone to which tyme and place the Companie present foe thinke fitt to adjourne |
| 09/07/55 | 1 | Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Sheriffe Alleyn, Mr Henley Snr, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Ward, Mr Noell, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Harrington, Mr Hallett, Captain Swann, Mr Crane, Mr Bland |
| 09/07/55 | 2 | Whereas the Companie of Adventurers taking unto consideration the order of tax made 21st of February last, whereby five shillinges an acre was sett and imposed upon the whole 95000 acres, payable at five severall payments as therein is perticularly mentioned and expressed, and whereas the two first payments thereof due and payable the first of March and first of June last are both in arrere or a great part of, it is ordered that Mr Sergeant Earle bee desired to draw up the forme of their severall warrants, one for the receivor of the Company or his assigned to distreyn the goods, stocke and chattells of all defaulters in payinge in the first payments due as aforesaid, another warrant for the sequestringe the landes as shall make default as aforesaid and a third warrant for bringinge in the said tax and penalties together with the changes occasioned, thereby renderinge noe account for the same to the owners of Adventurers |
| 09/07/55 | 3 | Whereas severall Adventurers have made theire addresses to the Companie and doe complaine that they are very much prejudiced and damnified for want of convenient wayes and passages to theire respective grownds, it is therefore ordered that Mr Moore the surveyour doe take espetiall care upon complaintt made unto him by any Adventurer forthwith to bee upon the place, or else name and provide some able surveyour or surveyours in his stead, that may sett out and appointe convenient wayes and passages to bee lockspitted out for the accomodation of each Adventurer therein concerned |

That the management of the whole busines of the Companie of Adventurers bee put into the care of three persons here after named

Resolved

That Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley bee nominated persons fitt to take upon them the care of the affayres of the Company who are to have for their paines one hundred and fiftie poundes a yeare apeece which the expeditor or receivor of the Company, for the tyme beinge, is to pay them quarterly notwithstanding former orders to the contrary, and their tyme is to comense from the first of July last, and they are to pursue such instructions as are hereafter gollowinge viz -

1 To settle and state the accounts of the Companie with all convenient speede and to consider forthwith how to bring in the arreres

2 To consider how the banckes in the whole levell may bee adgusted and repayed and mainteyned by perticuler Adventurers and Owners

3 To take into consideration the framinge and makinge of by lawes for the good of the Company

4 To search and procure all releases and evidences as have byn made to the Company for land they have purchased and bought of the Country or otherwise

5 To take care that there may bee conveyances made from the 4 trustees in the Acte of Parliament named to every Adventurer

6 To prevent all nuisances and wronges done to the workes or dreynes wyther by dams, stoppes or otherwise

[Page 202] 7 To heare all petitions and redres all greivances.

8 To consider all workes allready done or now in doinge and to take accoumpt of the moneyes layd out upon the same by the respective conservators

9 To advice the Company from tyme to tyme what sum of sums of money are necessary to bee raised

10 To have power to make orders touching any of the affayres of the Company which are to bee jointly and not severally signed by them, which orders so signed by them shall bee valid and effectuall to all intents and purposes except in their cases, that is to say where they shall take upon them to alter any workes appointed to bee done eyther by the Company or the conservators or to lay any tax or taxes upon the 95000 acres or any part thereof, wherein they are not to conclude the Company but to propound their advice and opinions to the Company

- 5 Ordered that the generall meetinge of the Companie bee the 4th dayes in every terme and 4 days after every terme. In the meane tyme, they thinke fitt to adjourne to meete againe at the place aforesaid on Thursday next at 7 of the clocke in the forenoone

- 1 Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Hamond, Mr Robert Staunton, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr St John, Mr Henley, Mr Bland

12/07/55	2	Ordered that Mr Dalton receivor of the Company doe forthwith paie unto Mr Thomas Waters the sum of seaven and twenty poundes, twelve shillings and six pence due unto him upon severall bills this daie, produced with bills hee is to reteyne in his handes, and take his receipt accordingly
12/07/55	3	Memorand Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley doe intend to meete at Mr Henlyes howse tomorrow at 3 a clocke in the afternoone in pursuance of the order made 9th of July instant to take in to consideration the affayres of the Company
26/10/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Trafford, Mr Latch, Mr Anthony Samuell, Major Evelyn, Mr Woodward, Mr Michael Holman jn, Mr Allen, Mr Bland, Lord Chief Justie St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr St John, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Page, Mr Chicheley, Sir Henry Henne, Mr R.Henley Jnr, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Walker, Mr Bradley
26/10/55	2	Ordered that the Company of Adventurers doe adjourne to meete againe at the place aforesaid on Wednesdaie next at two a clocke in the afternoone
31/10/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justie St John, Sir Edward Partherich, Colonell Samuell Jones, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Draper, Mr Robert Hampson, Colonell R.Castell, Mr Thomas Allen, Mr Trenchard, Mr Woodward, Mr Bland, Mr Latch, Mr W.Drewry, Mr Trafford, Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Chicheley
31/10/55	2	[Page 203] Whereas diverse of the Companie have engaged and raised nyne thousand poundes for the carryinge on of the workes and have entered into bond to severall persons for the same, the Companie doe declare that they doe acknowledge the debt that those gent stand engaged for is the debt of the said Companie and that they will pay the said debt and in part of security they doe hereby order that the first money that shall bee paid upon the five shillings tax, shall bee paid in such manner as the said persons soe engaged shall thinke meete for the payment of the debts. And the bookes wherein those engagements are written is hereby ordered to bee brought in at the next meeting of the Company, that the Company may thereupon advise what further security shall bee given for their indemnity, the said persons havinge hereby done a great service to the said Company.
31/10/55	3	Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley bee impowered to use all wayes and meanes they can for the bringinge in of all arrere taxes and growinge taxes
06/11/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Robert Castell, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr St John, Mr Richard Swann, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr William Crane
06/11/55	2	Ordered that the Company doe adjourne to meet againe at the place aforesaid on Satterdaie next att 3 of the clocke in the afternoone
10/11/55	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Crane, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Major Evelyn, Mr Henley, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr William Weston, Mr Bland
10/11/55	2	Ordered that every Adventurer in the Great Levell of the Fennes that is now in towne and that hath any occasion of complaynt to the Company shall bringe in his or their complaint to Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley before the ende of this present terme to the intent they may have redres therein. And others out of towne are to doe

the like after ten daies notice given them. And every Adventurer sending his or their landes short in measure or cutt away and prejudiced by reason of the workes shall, notwithstanding for the present, pay and discharge the taxes for soe much land as they have untill it bee further knowne what lande is wantinge, which shall appeare by admeasurement and, upon a certificate to bee made by a surveyour for that purpose appointed, the Companie hereby declaring that the said Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley shall have the like benefitt and liberty with other Adventurers and Participants to bringe in their complaints to the Company

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| 10/11/55 | 3 | Ordered that the Companie doe adjourne to meete againe att the place aforesaid the foweth day after this present terme at three a clocke in the afternoone, accordinge to former order, unless upon the Lords daie and then the next daie after |
| 03/12/55 | 1 | [Page 204] Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Lane, Mr Evelyn, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Chicheley, Mr Hampson, Mr Bradley, Mr Hamond Ward, Alderman Underwood, William Smith Esqr |
| 03/12/55 | 2 | Ordered that the busines of Mr Fynnes in relation to his proposalls and demandes made to the Company, bee referred to Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley to know and finally determyn the same, and what they shall doe therein, the Companie will ratifie and confirme, and it is further ordered that the demandes of Mr Burrell and Mr Morssell be also referred to the consideration of the said Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley |
| 03/12/55 | 3 | The Companie havinge lately received a letter from Comissary Generall Whalley wherein he did signifie his desire to the Companie to bee eased of the imployment of beinge conservator of the South Levell in regard of his other publique employments, the Company therefore have thought fitt to accept of his resignation, and have put to the question of nomination and choice of another fitt person to bee conservator of the said South Levell in his place, and thereupon doe order and desire Samuell Fortrey Esquire to take upon him the office of conservator of the said South Levell, who I hereby authorized to choose his owne officers from tyme to tyme, and hee shall receive for himselfe and his officers five poundes a weeke to commence for the tenth of this present month, and that all the officers that were imployd under Comissary Generall Whalley shall then bee discharged |
| 22/12/55 | 1 | Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr Say, Mr Latch, Mr Anthony Sammuell, Mr Evelyn, Mr Richard Holman, Mr Athur Samuell, Mr Fountayne, Mr Bradley, Mr Staunton, Mr Trafford, Mr Marsham, Mr William Smith, Mr Crane, Captain Richard Blackwall, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Woodward, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Richard Swan, Mr St John, Mr Sayer, Mr William Weston, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Bland |
| 22/12/55 | 2 | Ordered by consent of the Company present that as many as are in arrere and now present, doe agree to discharge and pay in their arreres before the 10th of January next |
| 22/12/55 | 3 | Ordered that all taxes in arrere bee mentioned and perticularly inserted into the order of sale this daie read over to the Companie which was drawne by advice of councill which order hereafter followeth |

Whereas five and more of the Participants and Adventurers for dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes, by force and vertue of the power and authority given to them by an Acte of Parliament intituled an Acte for the dreyninge of the Great Levell of the Fennes extending itself into the Counties of **[Page 205]** Northampton, Norfolke, Suffolke, Lincolne, Cambridge and Huntingdon and the Isle of Elie, or some of them,

impose and sett severall taxes hereafter followinge, that is to say one tax of 15d an acre the 24th February 1652 upon every acre of the 95000 acres in the said Acte of Parliament, mentioned as by order by them made appeareth, to bee paid in to the officers of the treasury by the handes of the receivor of the Company for the tyme beinge at two severall payments viz - the one moytie or 7d 06 thereof the first day of June next ensuinge, and the other moytie or 7d 06 thereof the 1st daie of July then also the next ensuinge. And whereas five and more of the said Participants and Adventurers the 4th daie of August 1653 set and imposed one other taxe of 2s an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres, as by an order by them made also appeareth for and towards upholding, repayinge and mainteyninge of the severall workes, in that order specified to be paid to George Dalton the then and now treasurer of the Companie for the tyme beinge at or before the 20 daie of August the next ensuinge, and whereas five and more of the said Participants and Adventurers the 22nd day of December 1653 set and imposed one other tax of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres, as by an order by them made, also appeareth for and towards the upholdinge, repayinge and mainteyninge of the severall workes, in that order also specified to bee paid to the said George Dalton or William Jessop Esquire on or before the 1st daie of February the next ensuinge, and whereas five and more of the said Participants and Adventurers the 4th daie of Aprill 1654 set and imposed one other tax of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres as by an order by them, made also appeareth for and towards the upholding repayinge and mainteyninge of the severall workes in that order, also specified to bee paid to the said George Dalton or the treasurer of the Companie for the tyme beinge at 2 payments viz - one moytie or the 7d thereof at or before the 1st daie of May then next ensuinge, and the other moytie or 7d thereof at or before the first daie of June then also next ensuinge, and whereas five or more of the said Participants and Adventurers the 6th daie of August 1654 set and imposed one other tax of 17d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres, as by an order by them made, also appeareth for and towards the repairing, mainteyninge and amendinge of the severall workes in that order, also specified to bee paid to the said George Dalton of the treasurer of the Company for the tyme beinge at 2 payments viz - 9d an acre or one moytie thereof at or before the 1st daie of September then next ensuinge, and 9d and acres or the other moytie thereof at or upon the 1st daie of October then also next ensuinge and whereas five and more of the said Participants and Adventurers, the 6th daie of October 1654 set and imposed an other tax of 3d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres, as by order by them made, also appeareth for the service of preserving and mainteyninge of the severall workes, formerly ordered to bee done within the said levell to bee paid to the said George Dalton or the treasurer of the Company for the tyme beinge at or upon the first daie of November then next ensuinge, and whereas also five and more of the said Participants and Adventurers the 21st daie of February 1654 set and imposed one other tax of 3s an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres, as by an order by them made also appeareth for and towards the repaying, mainteyninge and amendinge of the workes on that order specified to bee paid to the said George Dalton, the then and now treasurer of the Company, for the tyme beinge at five severall payments in manner and forme followinge, that is to say the 1st payment of 12 d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres upon the 1st day of March then next ensuinge, the 2nd payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres upon the 1st daie of June, then also next ensuinge, the 3rd payment of 12s an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres upon the 1st daie of September then also the next ensuinge, the 4th payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres upon the 1st daie of February now next ensuinge, and the 5th payment of 12d an acre upon every acre of the said 95000 acres upon the 1st daie of August which shall bee in the yeare of our Lord 1656.

- 22/12/55 4 And whereas diverse of the said Participants and Adventurers who then had and yet have parte of the said 95000 acres have made default in payment of their proportionable partes of the said taxes imposed upon their lotts and share of the said 95000 acres, it is therefore this daie declared, ordered and decreed that if they the said defaulters or any of them shall not severally and respectively before the 26th daie of January next ensuinge, paie unto the said George Dalton or to the treasurer of the Company for the tyme being **[Page 206]** their severall and respective proportions of the said severall taxes so now in arrere, and by them severally and respectively to have byn paid, that then the severall and respective lotts and shares in the said landes of such of them, the said defaulters, as shall not before the said 26th daie of January paie to the said George Dalton or to the treasurer of the Company for the tyme beinge their said severall and respective proportions of the said severall taxes soe now in arrere and by them to have byn paid, shall upon the said 26th daie of January, or so soone after as purchasors can bee had, bee sold by such five or more of the said Participants and Adventurers as by the said Acte of Parliament as apponted in such proportion as they shall thinke fitt, restoring the surplusage of the money (if any bee) according to the said Acte of Parliament.
- 22/12/55 5 Ordered that councell shall prepare an assurance to bee made by the trustees to all the Adventurers that have or shall cleere all their taxes by the 26th of January next and to such purchasors that shall buy and Adventurer land for non payment of taxes, with provision in the said conveyance that all the said lands may stand lyable in the future for forfeiture by entry or otherwise as they shall advise for non payment of future taxes, and it is further ordered that the trustees bee made acquainted herewith and that care bee taken for their indemnity and security, and Mr Gorges and Mr St John are desired to take this into their care and attend Mr Sergeant Earle and Mr Fountayne and Mr Palmer for the drawing up of the said conveyance.
- 22/12/55 6 Where there is an urgent occasion and necessity for the raising money for payment of the workemen, who for want of money were necessitated to be put of without beinge paid, and whereas for their satisfaction and to prevent clamour and mutiny amongst the workers, most the the Companie now present have subscribed their names to a paper to bring in a considerable sum of money against Satterdaie next whereupon the clarke is hereby ordered to shew the same to other Adventurers now absent and desire them to subscribe the same.
- 22/12/55 p.m 1 Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Crane, Mr Evelyn, Mr Bland, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Say, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Fountayne, Mr William Smith, Mr Secretary Thurloe, Mr Bradley
- 22/12/55 p.m 2 Forasmuch as the Companie find that the sequestration and distresse taken upon the landes of severall defaulters payinge in their respective taxes doe tende to trouble and disquiet of the tennants in possession, and it not soe effectuell for the speedy levyinge of the taxes as the necessity of the workes require, it is thereupon ordered that the bayliffes and collectors doe upon notice of this order forbear to make any further sequestrations or distresses and retorne their warrants to the committee of the Companie from whome they received them and an account of what they have received and from whome, the Company havinge resolved and accordingly ordered a sale of such defaulters landes as shall bee in arrere in payinge of taxes the 26th January next.
- 22/12/55 p.m 3 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Fortrey, Mr Barber and Mr Moore to consider of the workes allready designed in the whole South Levell and to certifie their opinions of them and what further workes not yet designed are to bee done for security of the said levell, and to make retorne thereof in writinge by the 23rd of January next.

- 22/12/55 p.m 4 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley bee desired to write a letter to Mr Barber signifyinge that the Company are very sensible of the trouble and paynes hee hath taken in their affayres in the South Levell and that the Company will shortly take occasion to retorne him a thankefull acknowledgement.
- 22/12/55 p.m 5 **[Page 207]** Ordered that a letter bee written to Mr Fortrey to remynde him of the severall orders that have byn formerly made for the setting out of drove wayes and forelands throughout the South Levell and that hee would bee very carefull the same may bee done before the 10th of October next.
- 26/01/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Hamond, Mr Ben Weston, Mr Carill, Mr Say, Mr Culpeper, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Cooke, Mr Bridges, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Stone, Mr Bladwyn Arthur, Mr Bradley, Mr Swan, Mr Marsham, Mr Knott, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr William Weston, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Stanley, Mr Sayer, Mr William Smith, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Fountayne, Mr Trafford, Mr Pemberton, Mr Drewry, Dr Fryer, Mr Crane, Mr Bland, Mr Edward Salder, Mr Bretton, Mr Arthur Evelyn, Mr Alderman Alleyn, Colonel Robert Castell, Mr Vermuyden, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden
- 26/01/56 2 Resolved
- That all accounts of all defaulters shall bee stated and cleered before Monday come sennight next and that all landes which shall then bee in arrere shall bee sold peremptorily
- 26/01/56 3 Resolved
- That a Committee bee named to consider who are the defaulters in payinge in their taxes and likewise what recompence the Companie shall have for forbearance of their mony, according to former orders of the Companie, and they are to perfecte up their report at or before Satterday next at Mr Henleyes chamber in the Middle Temple
- 26/01/56 4 Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford, Mr Hamond, Mr William Smith, Mr Marsham and Mr Trenchard bee added to Mr Gorges and Mr St John and Mr Henley and they, or any fower of them, are to see the aforesaid order put in due execution. And this Committee are also to consider how the state of the cash standes to the intent those monyes may bee discharged that have byn taken up at interest according to the order of the 31st of October last and the bondes are to bee taken up first.
- 26/01/56 5 Ordered that Mr George Dalton, the treasurer of the Companie for the tyme beinge, doe pay and discharge the sum of one hundred and fortie poundes three shillings for worke taken up upon the south bancke of Moretons Leame accordinge to a paper delivered in this daie of the 3rd of August 1654 and the sum of five poundes ten shillings due unto Thomas Cooke for worke taken up in plant water according to a bill delivered in this day of 12th of August 1654 and the some of two poundes and five shillings due unto Thomas Francis for fillinge all the lowes and ditches endes betweene Guyhurne and Elderwell howse by Moretons Leame according to another bill delivered in this daie of the 1st August 1654, which severall sums amount unto one hundred and fifite poundes, eighteene shillings and three pence for which hee is to take receipt, accordingly placinge the same to account.

- 26/01/56 5 **[Page 208]** Ordered that the busines of Colonell Dodson bee taken into consideration by Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Henley at their next meetine at Mr Henleys chamber in the Middle Temple
- 04/02/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Trechard, Mr Stanley, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr Say, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Raymond, Mr Bland, Mr Spulman, Dr Fryer, Mr Hamnd Ward, Sir Cornelius Vermuyden, Mr Robert Henley, Mr Ben Weston, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford, Mr Chicheley, Mr William Smith, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr John Arthur, Mr Latch, Mr Marsham, Mr Cony, Mr Bradley, Mr William Hamond, Mr Barret, Mr Permberton, Mr Richard Swann, Mr Drewry, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Crane, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Culpeper, Mr Abraham Gardner, Mr Alderman William Underwood, Mr Richard Blackwall
- 04/02/56 2 Whereas there is an arrere of £37.10.00, due and owinge the Company by Willam Adams Esqr and transferred to Mr Dalton the now receivor, another account by William Jessop Esqr, the late receivor to the Company, for or in respecte of 1200 acres in the 6th, 7th, 9th and 18th lotts, now forasmuch as 37 acre parcell of the said 1200 acres, to bee indifferently set out of the said 1200 acres, were this daie exposed to sale for the arrere aforesaid, and John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie offered £37.01.00 for the purchase thereof, whereupon, it beinge propounded and none offeringe more, the said 37 acres were sold to the said clarke for the arrere aforesaid.
- 04/02/56 3 Whereas there is an arrere of £109.04.10 due and owinge the Company for and in respecte of 1001 acres in the 2nd lott standing on the head of John Trenchard Esqr, which arrere of £109.04.00 was transferred to Mr Dalton the now receivor, another account by William Jessop Esqr the late receivor to the Company, now forasmuch as 109 acres parcell of the said 1001 acres, to be indifferently set out thereof, were this daie exposed to sale for the arrere aforesaid, and John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie offered £109.04.10 for the purchase thereof, whereupon, it beinge propounded and none offeringe more, the said 109 acres were sold to the said clarke for the arrere aforesaid.
- 04/02/56 4 Whereas there is an arrere of £44.03.04 due and owinge the Company for and in respecte of 400 acres in the 1st lott standing on the head of Edward Smith and John Miller which arrere was transferred to Mr Dalton the now receivor, another by William Jessop Esqr the late receivor to the Company, now forasmuch as 44 acres parcell of the said 400 acres, to be indifferently set out thereof, were this daie exposed to sale for the arrere aforesaid, and John Hopkinson clarke of the Companie offered £44.03.04 for the purchase thereof, whereupon, it beinge propounded and none offeringe more, the said 44 acres were sold to the said clarke for the arrere aforesaid.
- 04/02/56 5 Whereas Sir Cornelius Vermuyden hath made default in payinge in the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June, the 18d tax due 1st September and 1st of October 1654, the 3d tax due the 1st Novmber 1654, the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre imposed February 1654 viz - 12d an acre due 1st March 1654, 12d an acre due the 1st June 1655 and 12d an acre due the 1st of September 1655 for or in respecte of 418 acres in the 1st lott, 140 acres lyinge in Botsham High Fen and 278 acres in Whelpmore Lowell More and Spaine Delfe amountinge to the sum of £86.11.00, now forasmuch as **[Page 209]** the said 418 acres were this daie exposed to sale and William Smith Esqr beinge present offered 30s and a half an acre, amountinge to the sum of £627 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the said 418 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for

dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 418 acres unto the said William Smith and his heires to have and to hold the said 418 acres unto him the said William Smith, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £627 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the remaynder or surplusage over and above the said taxes, beinge the sum of five hundred and fortie poundes and nyne shillings, bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said William Smith is to incurre such penalties as are enjoyned by former orders of the Company, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee, the said William Smith, shall have an assurance of the said 418 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoint to his and their heires.

04/02/56

6 Whereas Robert Turner gent late Cornelius Vermuyden Esqr hath made default in payinge in the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, the 18d tax due 1st September and 1st of October 1654, the 3d tax an acre due the 1st day of Novmber 1654, the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June 1655 and the 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 461 acres in Whelpmore B in the 2nd lott, amountinge to the sum of £95.09.00, now forasmuch as the said 461 acres this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr Edmund Berry Godfrey, being present, offered 36s an acres acre, amountinge to the sum of £829.16.00 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the said 461 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 461 acres unto the said Edmund Berry Godfrey and his heires to have and to hold the said 461 acres unto him the said Edmund Berry Godfrey, his heires and assigned provided that the sum of £95.09.00 bee within a weeke next after this date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage over and above the said taxes beinge £734.07.00 bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said Edmund Berry Godfrey is to incurre such penalties as are enjoyned by former orders of the Company, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Edmund Berry Godfrey shall have an assurance of the said 461 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

04/02/56

7 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, the 18d tax due 1st September and 1st of May and 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and first of October 1654, the 3d tax an acre due the 1st day of Novmber 1654, the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 461 acres in Whelpmore and in the 4th lott, amountinge to the sum of £95.09.00, now forasmuch as the said 461 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr Edmund Berry Godfrey, being present, offered £480 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the said 461 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 461 acres unto the said Edmund Berry Godfrey and his heires to have and to hold the said 461 acres unto him the said Edmund Berry Godfrey, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £95.09.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the remayner or surplusage, over and above the said taxes, beinge the

sum of £341.11.00, bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said Edmund Berry Godfrey is to incurre such penalties as are enjoyned by former orders of the Company, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Edmund Berry Godfrey shall have an assurance of the said 461 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

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| 04/02/56 | 8 | <p>[Page 210] Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, the 18d tax due 1st September and first of October 1654, the tax of 3d an acre due the 1st day of November 1654, the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 933 acres in the 5th lott viz - in Stretham Comon 172.02.00 acres, Grunty Fen 100 acres and Whelpmore 661 acres, amountinge to the sum of £193.05.10, now forasmuch as the said 933.02.00 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr William Gape, being present, offered £1100 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the said 461 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 933 acres unto the said Mr William Gape and his heires to have and to hold the said 933 acres unto him the said Mr William Gape, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £193.05.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the remaynder of surplusage over and above the said taxes, beinge the sum of £906, bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale is not onely void but the said Mr William Gape is to incurre such penalties as are enjoyned by former orders of the Company, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Edmund Berry Godfrey shall have an assurance of the said 933 acres and <i>put antea</i></p> |
| 05/02/56 | 1 | <p>Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Hamond, Mr Say, Mr Ham Ward, Dr Fryer, Mr Carill, Mr Pemberton, Mr Evelyn, William Hamond, William Smith, Mr Latch, Mr Drewry, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Spilman, Mr Marsham, Mr Swann, Mr Fountayne, Mr Trafford, Mr John Arthur, Mr Baldwyn Arthur, Mr Bradley, Mr Stone, Mr Knott</p> |
| 05/02/56 | 2 | <p>Ordered that every parcell of the 2000 acres of Sir Cornelius Vermuydens which are to remaine in the trustees handes for 7 yeares that are or shall bee sold for taxes in the respective conveyances thereof, there shall bee mention made that they shall stand lyable to the trust formerly reserved for the Company accordinge to the Articles of Agreement made between them and Sir Cornelius Vermuyden.</p> |
| 05/02/56 | 3 | <p>Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, the 18d tax due 1st September and 1st of May and 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and first of October 1654, the 3d tax an acre due the 1st day of November 1654, the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 300 acres of Somersham Comon in the 5th lott, amountinge to the sum of £88.05.00, now forasmuch as the said 300 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Thomas Babington of the Sumer Temple London Esquire, being present, offered eightie six pounce and five shillings for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, [Page 211] in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given</p> |

unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 300 acres unto the said Thomas Babington and his heires to have and to hold the said 300 acres unto him the said Thomas Babington, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of eighty six poundes five shillings bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company or else this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Thomas Babington shall have an assurance of the said three hundred acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

- 05/02/56 4 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 12d an acre due the first of May and 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1 September and 1st October 1654, the tax of 3d an acre due the 1st November 1654 and the first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 134 acres in the 5th lott viz - in Connington severalls 81 acres, in Berry More Fenn 45 acres, in Ramsey severalls D 8 acres, amountinge to the sum of £38.10.06, now forasmuch as the said 134 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Marsham Esqr offered £38.10.06 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 134 acres unto the said John Marsham and his heires to have and to hold the said 134 acres unto him the said John Marsham his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £38.10.06 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Marsham shall have an assurance of the said 400 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand the said John Marham hath nominated and appointed Thomas Baker of Middle Aston in the County of Oxford Esqr to have the assurance of the said 134 acres made unto him and his heires

- 05/02/56 5 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of 12d an acres due the 1st of May and 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1 September and 1st October 1654, the tax of 3d an acre due the 1st November 1654 and the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 131 acres in the 5th lott viz - Chartris severalls 5 acres, Throckenholt Well by Clowes Crosse A next Closse Cross 5 acres, severalls of Wellney and Wellney 16 acres and part of 200 acres in Dereham Comons 105 acres, amountinge to the sum of £46.03.03, now forasmuch as the said 131 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Marsham Esqr offered £46.03.03 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 131 acres unto the said John Marsham and his heires to have and to hold the said 131 acres unto him the said John Marsham, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £46.03.03 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner, as aforesaid, hee the said John Marsham shall have an assurance of the said

131 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand the said John Marsham hath nominated Mis Sarah Parsons widow to have the assurance of the said 134 acres made unto him and his heires

- 05/02/56 6 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 56 acres, part of 115 acres of Sir Myles Sandys, imbanked grownd B in the 4th lott amountinge to the sum of £08.08.00, now forasmuch as the said 56 acres were this daie exposed to sale and William Esqr offered £08.08.00 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament, doe hereby **[Page 212]** sell the said 56 acres unto the said William Say and his heires to have and to hold the said 56 acres unto him the said Willima Say, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £08.08.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said William Say shall have an assurance of the said 56 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.
- 05/02/56 7 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 400 acres in Westmore north of Bedford River in the 1st lott, amountinge to the sum of £60, now forasmuch as the said 400 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Anthony Samuell the younger, being present, offered £350 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 400 acres unto the said Anthony Samuell and his heires to have and to hold the said 400 acres unto him the said Anthony Samuell, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £60 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage beinge £290 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Anthony Samuell shall have an assurance of the said 400 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.
- 05/02/56 8 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 450 acres in the 5th lott viz - 400 acres in Westmore South and 50 acres, the moytie of 100 acres in Westmore south of Bedford River, amountinge to the sum of sixtie seaven poundes and ten shillinges, now forasmuch as the said 450 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Anthony Samuell the younger, being present, offered five hundred and fiftie poundes for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell

of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 450 acres unto the said Anthony Samuell and his heires to have and to hold the said 450 acres unto him the said Anthony Samuell, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £67.10.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage beinge £480 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Anthony Samuell shall have an assurance of the said 400 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

- 05/02/56 9 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 111 acres called Knotts Fen in Hockwold and Redmore growndes in the 5th lott, amountinge to the sum of £16.13.00, now forasmuch as the said 111 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Anthony Samuell the younger being present offered £16.13.00 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 111 acres unto the said Anthony Samuell and his heires to have and to hold the said 111 acres unto him, the said Anthony Samuell, his heires and assigned provided that the said sum of £60 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Anthony Samuell shall have an assurance of the said 111 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.
- 05/02/56 10 **[Page 213]** Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 2s an acre due 20th August 1653 and also the 12d an acre due 1st February 1653 and also of 12d an acre due the 1st May and 1st June 1654, the 18d due 1st September and 1st of October 1654, the 3d tax due 1st November 1654 and the 3 1st payments of the 5s tax imposed the 21st of February last past, payable 1st March, 1st June, 1st September last past, for or in respecte of 1765 acres hereafter mentioned, that is to say for 200 acres on the heades of John and William Mainston in Hale Fenn Comon and Sedge Fenn, a severall by Wellney next Wellney A in the 1st lott, Westmore north and south on the head of William Mainston, 100 acres in the same lott part of 400 acres in Stony and Blocke Comon, 100 acres on the heades of John and William Mainston in the 2nd lott in Wellney, severall partes of 79 acres on the head of Thomas Shepherded, 6.3.6 acres in the 3rd lott sold to William Mainston by the Companie at Elie, Tuesdaie 4th of October 1653, but the tax roll not yet altered the deed not entered, Westmore South and 400 acres in the 17th lott on the head of William Mainston, Hale Fenn and 195 acres on the heades of John and William Mainston in the same lott, Westmore North and South 100 acres and 1 acre of the 11 acres of Wellney severalls north of Bedford River in the 10th lott on the head of the said W Mainston, part of 316 acres in Feltwell severalls, 102.01.20 acres and 100 acres in Westmore north and south of Bedford River and 10 acres of Wellney severalls north of the said river in the 11th lott on the head of the said William Mainston to bee exchanged with Mr Crane in the 13th lott and now lately on the head of the said Mr Crane, Westmore north and south of Bedford River 100 acres in the 19th lott and 100 acres in Westmore north and south of Bedford River in the 20th lott, both on the head of the said William Mainston and 200 acres in Crosse and Core in Chartris next Doddington B in the 7th lott, now on the head of John Latch Esqr, upon condition or

provision with severall parcells of land, doe amounte as aforesaid unto 1765.00.26 acres, now forasmuch as the said landes were this daie bee exposed to sale for non payment of the said severall taxes and Mr Charles Porter, being now present, offered £350 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the said 1765.00.26 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 1765.00.26 acres unto the said Charles Porter and his heires to have and to hold the said 1765.00.26 acres unto him the said Charles Porter, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £850 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of sale bee void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Charles Porter shall have an assurance of the said 1765.00.26 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand that the £850 purchase money, together with so much more as did make up the 12d tax due 1st of this month, beinge in all £860.10.13 for the said 1765.00.26 acres, was paid unto the receivor and accordinge to the said order of sale, as by the acquittance for receipt of the same, entred 11th February instant appeareth.

Memorand the said Charles Porter hath nominated and appointed Mis Sarah Parsons widow to have the assurance of the said 1765.00.26 made unto her and her heires.

05/02/56

- 11 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the three first payments of the tax of 5d an acre imposed 21st February 1654, due and payable 1st of March, 1st June and 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 1974.00.20 acres hereafter mentioned viz -

In the 1st lott Haddenham Comon A - 100.00.00 acres
 In 5th lott Haddenham Comon B - 78.00.00 acres
 Westmoore north of Bedford River - 50.00.00 acres
 Westmore north and south of Bedford River - 100.00.00 acres
 Westmore South H - 200.00.00 acres
 Comon peece in Wellney - 134.00.00 acres
 Londoners a severall adjoyning to Comon peece - 21.00.00 acres
 Denton Comon - 156.00.00 acres
 Ladies Fen - 115.00.00 acres
 Mr Mendyes grownd in Chartris - 234.00.00 acres
 Part of Swaffham High Fen, 5 acrs and parte of Croyle 4 acres - 9.00.00 acres
 A severall in Lakenheath by Crosse water - 8.00.00 acres
 Knobballs in Welney South of Bedford River - 19.00.00 acres
 Dikamore B - 200.00.00 acres
 Ladies Fenn H - 105.00.00 acres
 Parte of Mr Peytons severalls - 122.00.20 acres
 White Fenn next towards the hard land - 211.00.00 acres
 Byall south next towards Mepall - 100.00.00 acres
 By Erith Sluce - 2.00.00
 And Mr Pratts severall in Hockwold - 10.00.00

Which severall parcells of land amount unto - 1974.00.20

As aforesaid, now forasmuch as the said landes were this daie exposed **[Page 214]** to sale for non payment of the said severall taxesm amounting to the sum of £295.12.00,

now forasmuch as the said 1974.00.20 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr Anthony Samuell the younger, being present, offered £300 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the said 1974.00.20 acres, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 1974.00.20 acres unto the said Anthony Samuell and his heires to have and to hold the said 1974.00.20 acres unto him the said Anthony Samuell, his heires and assigned provided that the said sum of £295.02.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage over and above the taxes beinge £4.18.00 is to be restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Anthony Samuell shall have an assurance of the said 1974.00.20 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

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| 05/02/56 | 12 | <p>[Page 214] Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre set and imposed the 21st February 1654 due and payable the 1st March 1654, the 1st June and the 1st of September last past for or in respecte of 295 acres in the 5th lott viz - Norwold Comon A next unto Stoke Bridge 200 acres, and the remaynder of the 200 acres in Dereham Comon 95 acres amountinge to £44.05.00, now forasmuch as the said 295 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr Thomas Bulmer, being present, offered £50 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 295 acres unto the said Thomas Bulmer and his heires to have and to hold the said 295 acres unto him the said Thomas Bulmer, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £45.05.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage beinge £5.15.00 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £50 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Thomas Bulmer shall have an assurance of the said 295 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.</p> |
| 05/02/56 | 13 | <p>Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 2nd and 3rd payment of the tax of 5s an acre set and imposed the 21st February 1654 due and payable the 1st June and the 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 400 acres in Normore in Chartis B in the 11th lott, amountinge to £40, now forasmuch as the said 400 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Howland of London gent, being present, offered £200 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 400 acres unto the said John Howland and his heires to have and to hold the said 400 acres unto him the said John Howland, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £40 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £160 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void. And it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner as</p> |

aforesaid, hee the said John Howland shall have an assurance of the said 400 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

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| 05/02/56 | 14 | Ordered that it bee referred to Mr William Smith, Mr Carill and Mr Latch who are added to Mr Gorges, Mr St John, and Mr Henley and they, or any too of them, are to take into consideration the severall arreres transferred to Mr Daltons account, and they are desired to certifie their opinions touchinge the same unto the Companie with all convenient speede |
| 05/02/56 | 15 | Whereas default of payment was made of arrere of £22.13.00, being the 3 first payments of the 5s tax, for or in respecte of 151 acres parte of 451 acres Upwood Fen lying next towards Ramsey in the 2nd lott, and the said 151 acres beinge now exposed to sale and Mr George Dalton offered £200 for the purchase thereof and agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, whereupon the Companie sell the said 151 acres unto the said George Dalton, his heires and assigned to have and to hold, provided the said £22.13.00 within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage beinge £177.7.10 to bee restored to the right owner whereupon a conveyance is to be made from the Companie as in former orders |
| 07/02/56 | 1 | [Page 215] Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Hamond, Mr Latch, Mr Fortrey, Mr Stone, Mr Knott, Mr Chicheley, Mr Carill, Mr Gascoigne, Mr Ham Ward, Mr Evelyn, Mr Trafford, Mr Marsham, Mr Pemberton, Mr Holman, Mr Bland, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Latch, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Anthony Samuell, Mr William Hamond, Mr William Smith, Mr Barret, Mr John Spilman, Mr Bradley |
| 07/02/56 | 2 | Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Henley, Mr William Smith, Mr Carill and Mr Latch, or any two of them, to take into consideration all such landes as are cut away and prejudiced, or such as fall short in measure, to the intent they may give relief therein to all such Adventurers as shall make complain unto them |
| 07/02/56 | 3 | Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre, set and imposed the 21st February 1654 due and payable the 1st June and the 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 120.00.20 acres of land, part of 500 acres in West Fenne and West Fenn Close D next West Fen Close and parcell of the 12th lott, amountinge to £18.00.44, now forasmuch as the said 12.00.20 acres were this daie exposed to sale and Mr George Dalton, being present, offered £160 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 12.00.20 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 12.00.20 acres unto him the said George Dalton, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £18.00.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the Company by the said George Dalton, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes, beinge £141.19.07, is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid hee the said George Dalton shall have an assurance of the said 120.00.20 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires. |
| 07/02/56 | 4 | Whereas default of payment hath byn made of [] for or in respecte of 7.2.0 acres called Lanbeach, a severall in Upwood parcell of the 12th lott amountinge to [], now |

forasmuch as the said 7.2.0 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Marsham Esqr, being present, offered £14.01.00 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 7.2.0 acres unto the said John Marsham and his heires to have and to hold the said 7.2.9 acres unto the said John Marsham, his heires and assigned provided that the said sum of [] bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £160 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void.

This sale void, the mony beinge not brought in within 8 dayes.

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| 07/02/56 | 5 | <p>[Page 216] Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre, set and imposed the 21st February 1654 due and payable the 1st June and the 1st of September last past, for or in respecte of 500 acres in Byall Fenn on the north side of Bedford River, the moytie of 1000 acres of the said fenn part of 15000 acres over and above the 20 lotts, which taxes due amount unto the sum of £75, now forasmuch one hundred acres part of the 500 acres in Byall Fenn were exposed to sale to bee taken on that side of the said 500 acres which lyes next Byall Fenn Comon next the east, the one ende of the said 100 acres abuttin on the drove way next the dreyne comonly called old Bedford River, the other ende thereof extendinge to the furthest part of the said 500 acres to the north by an equall and streight lyne, and for as much as John Carill Esqr, being present, offered £156 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 400 acres unto the said John Carill and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto him the said John Carill, his heires and assigned provided that the said sum of £75 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £81 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Carill shall have an assurance of the said 100 acres from the Companie, made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoint to his and their heires.</p> |
| 07/02/56 | 6 | <p>For as much as it appeares to the Companie that two hundred and twenty of the acres and fower and twenty perches belonginge to Mr Shepheard in the 3rd lott were on Tuesday last sold into Mr Charles Porter for £120 upon some mistake of an arrere, and whereas some part of the purchase money hath byn allready paid in to the expeditor, it is ordered that the conveyance bee made therein, but that the receivor doe restore backe againe the money deposited in his handes to the said Mr Porter, and hee is to reliquish his bargaine.</p> |
| 07/02/56 | 7 | <p>Ordered that the Companie resolve to meete again at the place aforesaid on Tuesday next at two a clocke in the afternoone to consider of the works to bee undertaken this somer, as also the state of the accounts and what money is in cash</p> |
| 12/02/56 | 1 | <p>Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Trenchard, Mr Robert Hampson, Captain Richard Blackwall, Mr Lane, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Carill, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr</p> |

Bradley, Mr Bland, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Trafford, Sir Edward Partherich, Mr Richard Holman, Mr Robert Henley Jnr, Mr Latch, Mr William Smith, Mr Hamond, Mr Evelyn, Mr Say, Mr Pemberton

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| 12/02/56 | 2 | Ordered that William Smith, Robert Hampson, William Say and Robert Henley Esquires, or any two of them, bee hereby named a committee to take into consideration the case of Mr Thomas Shepherd, touchinge the sale of his land and, upon consideration thereof, to make their report at the next meetinge of the Company, how they finde the same, in the meane tyme all proceedings touchinge the sale of land to bee stayed. |
| 12/02/56 | 3 | Upon readinge the last order of the Comissioners of 11th July 1655 touchinge Mr Edmund Bells damage susteyned, it is ordered that it bee referred to Mr Gorges, Mr St John, and Mr Henley to take the same into consideration and give satisfaction to the said Mr Bell, as they in their judgement shall thinke fitt. |
| 12/02/56 | 4 | Ordered that Mr Dalton the receivor of the Company doe make up a true state of the cash and present the same to the Company at their meetinge in Satterdaie next |
| 12/02/56 | 5 | It beinge enformed by Mr Bland sollicitor of the Companie that Mr Gibbon hath lately supoened diverse members of the Company and hath proferred a bill in chancery against them, it is ordered that the said Mr Bland enter an appearance for every one of the said Adventurers and take out a copie of the said bill to consider of |
| 12/02/56 | 5 | [Page 217] A petition was delivered in this daie by the inhabitants of the towne of Sutton and read over to the Companie concistinge of severall heades, whereupon the Companie made answer and ordered that they would take the same into their consideration at their next meetinge |
| 12/02/56 | 6 | Upon a certificate from Mr Gorges and Mr St John, read over this daie touchinge the £200 demanded by Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson, it is ordered that Mr George Dalton, the receivor of the Companie, doe forthwith issue out and paie unto the said Lieutenantt Colonell Dodson, in part of his demandes, the sum of five hundred poundes. And the Companie on Saterdag next will take into consideration the payment of the other hundred poundes when they shall have an account given them of their cash |
| 12/02/56 | 7 | Ordered that the busines of Mr Pemberton, touchinge landes betweene him and Mr Lake, bee referred to the consideration of the committee named this daie, and they or any two of them are desired to make their report to the Companie (at their next meetinge) how the matter of fact standes |
| 16/02/56 | 1 | William Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr William Smith, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond, Mr Trafford, Mr Evelyn, Mr Robert Hampson, Dr Fryer, Mr Godfrey, Mr Bland, Major Babington, Mr Anthony Samuelle jn, Mr Sam Jones, Mr Pemberton, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Sam Smith, Mr Crane, Mr Culpeper, Mr Carill, Mr Bradley, Mr Say |
| 16/02/56 | 2 | Ordered that as soone as the £200 purchase money for 400 acres, late standinge on the heades of Raph Pemberton and William Lake in the 11th lott, bee paid to George Dalton, receivor of the Company, by Mr John Howland who purchased the same, and as soone as a discharge or release bee provided under his handes of the said Raph Pemberton and William Lake of the surplusage remayninge that then a conveyance of the said 400 acres shall bee executed to the said John Howland and his heires or to such as hee shall nominate. |

- 16/02/56 3 Mr Caldwell, the minister of Wisbich, this daie came and moved the Companie to compound for tithes for and on the behalfe of severall townes on the north side of Wisbich but in regard hee had noe instructions at present from the said townes, the Companie made answer then, if hee or any others would come qualified from the said townes to treat the next terme with the Company, they would appointe two of their owne members to treat with them
- 16/02/56 4 Mr Growse, on the behalfe of the north side of Wisbich came to the Companie desiringe they would repayre the sluice at Tydd but the Companie returned answer that they expecte the inhabitants of north of Wisbich should 1st performe their bargaine with the Companie and pay in the money which hath byn so longe owinge to them and for which a suyte hath byn dependinge
- 16/02/56 5 Ordered that Mr Hamond and Mr Henley bee nominated on the behalfe of the Company of Adventurers to treat with Mr Hamond Ward on the behalfe of the towne of Sutton, touchinge their demandes for repayre of bridges and for highways touchinge their landes on the north banke dreyne foreland and backfloores, as also the south dreyne and foreland touchinge the removinge of the stop at Mepall, and that they shall bee paid for all such landes as are not already bought or paid for at such rates and prizes as the said referrees shall thinke fitt, and the said references are to consider of a way for the carryinge away the water of the downefall betweene Haddenham and the said towne of Sutton, and this is to bee done by the 1st daie of the next terme, and what finall determination shall bee made on both side shall bee conclusive to all parties.
- 16/02/56 6 **[Page 218]** Ordered that Mr Gorges Mr St John and Mr Henley and Mr Bland take such course by advice with councell for prosecution of those that have cutt Dowsdall banckes as by the lawes as provided. In the meane tyme, the said Mr Bland is to acquaint Colonell Walton with the cutting the said bancke and with this order
- 16/02/56 7 Ordered that a new navigable sasse bee made and with convenient speede sett downe att Salters Lode betwixt Downham Eau and the old Owze of the same dimentions of the sasse which is designed at Downham Eau in case there bee grownd sufficient for it.
- 16/02/56 8 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Moore and Mr Evans or eyther of them to consider where any Adventurer land in the South Levell is not yet sett out or divided, and to set the same out forthwith accordinge to law, and in perticuler 211 acres in White Fen in Swaffham in the 17th lott, 200 acres in the same Fen in the 15th lott, 5 acres in Swaffham Sedge Fenn and 4 acres in Croyle parte of 189 acres in Swaffham in the 9th lott, 2 acres in Somersham by Erith sluice in 17 lott, and the like releife is to bee given to all others that have cause to complaine. And that Gabrielle Elliot or Benjamyn Hare or eyther of them are to see this order put in execution in the North and Middle levell.
- 16/02/56 9 Upon readinge a certificate under the hande of Mr Pidley, what hee, in pursuance of an order of refference from the Lord Comissioners dated 11th July 1655, had set out, 60 acres and 33 acres, in all 93 acres, to Thomas Hampson late Baronet out of Raveley and Upwood in the 11th lott in lieu of 60 acres, recovered against him by Thomas Dacres, and 33 acres which is exchanged upon the desire of the said inhabitants, it is ordered that the 93 acres so set out by Mr Pedley shall bee speedily diked out by the Companie at their charge or that if Mr Hampson shall doe the same, it shall bee allowed him upon Mr Elliotts certificate
- 16/02/56 10 Ordered that, upon Mr Elliotts certificate to the Company that William Smith Esqr hath disbursed sums of money for makinge lott devisions, the expendor shall pay the

same

- 16/02/56 11 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Bland doe attend councell and retheyne them for the Companie against Tuesday, being the tyme of meetinge the Comissioners in Temple Hall.
- 18/02/56 1 William Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Say, Colonell Walton, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Pemberton, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Crane, Mr Sam Smith, Mr William Weston, Mr William Smith, Mr Ed Berry Godfrey, Mr William Hamond, Mr Robert Hampson, Mr Bland
- 18/02/56 2 Ordered that a conveyance now produced for Mr Parsons, the assigne of Mr Charles Porter, of severall parcells of land amountinge to 1765 acres and 26 perches, sold to the said Mr Charles Porter 5th February last for non payment of taxes, bee forthwith sealed, not withstandinge the petition and papers delivered in by Mr William Mainston, and the clarke is henceforth to attend the severall members of the Companie at their places of abode as well to seale the same, as all other conveyances of land sold by the Companie and that are not yet sealed.
- 18/02/56 3 This daie, beinge appointed to take into consideration the accounts of the Companie and what mony is in cash, it is ordered that Mr Trenchard and Mr Latch bee desired to take into their consideration the whole accounts of the Companie to audite and adjust the same, and they are to take the accoumpts from the tyme Mr Jessop did leave the same, includinge the 2s tax 20 August 1653, and all other accounts of receipt and expence not yet audited, and they are to call to their assistance whome they thinke fitt, and they shall have an allowance of fiftie poundes a peece for their paynes and are desired to make their report to the Companie at or before our Lady daie next.
- 18/02/56 4 Whereas the clarke did now certifie the Companie that noe notice in writinge or otherwise touchinge Dowsdale and Brotherhowse bancke, as by order of 25 June 1655, was directed and appointed to the Companie, put it to the question whether the said order was void or noe. It was resolved in the affirmative, and also ordered that they will with all convenient speede this sumer goe on the repayre of Dowsdale Bancke.
- 22/02/56 1 **[Page 219]** Lord Chief Justice St John, Mr Gorges, Mr William Smith, Captain Richard Blackwall, Mr Say, Mr Bradley, Mr Crane, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Bradley, Mr Lane, Mr William Weston, Mr Trenchard, Mr Hamond Ward, Colonell Walton, Mr Edmund Berry Godfrey
- 22/02/56 2 Ordered that the sum of fower and thirty poundes, nyneteen shillinges and six pence, by the receivor paid unto the inhabitants of the towne of Willingham, as borrowed out of the cash now in the treasury, to bee supplied againe out of the next tax.
- 22/02/56 3 Ordered that what money hath byn out of the treasury and directed to other uses then by orders of the Company, were to bee issued out and paid towards the workes, bee made up againe out of the next tax.
- 22/02/56 4 Ordered that the money that shall grow due and first shall come in upon the taxes allready sett, shall bee paid towards the workes in the Middle Levell untill the proportion formerly ordered for that levell bee made up equall with the North and the South Levell and so untill the said taxes bee paid, and the expendor is to issue out money accordingly

- 23/02/56 1 William Earl of Bedord, Mr Gorges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Say, Mr William Smith, Mr Crane, Colonell Robert Castell, Mr Latchm Mr Bradley, Mr Bland, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Samuell Jones, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr William Weston, Mr Trafford
- 23/02/56 2 Whereas it doth appeare to the Companie, upon debate of the workes which are to bee done in the South Levell, that for the serving that part of the said levell about Soham and Barway, it is thought fit that severall workes bee made for carrying away the waters from Soham Mere in tyme of floodes and keeping the same within soyle and at a low ebbe, which will bee a perticuler advantage to the Lord of the Manor of Soham. It is thereupon ordered that Mr Gorges and Mr Latch bee desired on the behalfe of the Companie to treat with Mr Chicheley, Lord of the said manor, for contribution towards the makeinge, maintenance and preservation of the workes and dreyne that shall bee made in order thereunto as they in their judgements shall finde most advantageous to the Companie and present the same to the Companie to take further order therein.
- 23/02/56 3 Resolved upon the question that a tax of 12d an acre bee sett and imposed, and is hereby set and imposed upon the 95000 acres, payable the 10th of Aprill next and the tyme of forfeiture the 10th of May next.
- 23/02/56 4 Whereas it appeareth unto the said Participants and Adventurers that the north bancke of Moretons Leame, Dowsdale Bancke, the banke from the west end of Crowland to the sasse there, the tonnell att Stonenooke Dreyne there, the Sheyre Dreyne from Hilles Sluce to Tidd Goates then **[Page 220]** the gravells in Moretons Leame, Horscroft bancke, the banckes at the receptacle at Ramsey, the sasse and outfall att Salters Lode, the banckes from Harrimere to Stretham, the sluce where that bancke crosses the old Owze, the banckes of Mildenhall, Brandon and Stoke and the tunnells in the same bancke, sett and beinge within the Great Levell of the Fennes, and which have byn heretofore made att the costs and charge of the said Participants and Adventurers for dreyninge of the said levell, are in decay and want repayringe, and which are to bee repaired and mainteyned by and out of the 95000 acres, and whereas, for the upholdinge, repayringe and mainteyninge of the workes made for the dreyninge of the said Great Levell of the Fennes, it will cost, as it hath byn estimated by the said Participants and Adventurers, the sum of fower thousand, seaven hundred and fiftie poundes, which is to bee assessed, raised and levied upon the said 95000 acres, it is therefore for the levyinge of the said some of fower thousand seaven hundred and fiftie poundes thought fit and requisite by the said Participants and Adventurers that every acre of the said 95000 acres bee rated and taxed and is by the said Participants and Adventurers rated and taxed at 12d the acre to bee paid respectively by every owner, Participant and Adventurer of the said nynety five thousand acres on or before the 10th day of the month of Aprill next ensuinge, into the handes of George Dalton gent at his howse in Starr Court without Temple Barre, and the said Participants and Adventurers doe order that if any of the said owners, Participants and Adventurers of the said nyntie five thousand acres, or of any part or parcell of the same, shall make default in payment of his, her or their proportion of the said rate of tax, at the tyme and place aforesaid, contrary to the true intent and meaninge hereof and shall contynue unpaid untill the 10th day of May next ensuinge, that then the severall and respective lotts and sluces in the said landes of such of therein, the said defaulters, as shall not, before the said tenth daie of May, pay severall and respective proportions of the said tax, shall upon the said tenth day of May, or so soone after as purchasers may bee had, bee sold accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament by such five or more of the said Participants and Adventurers as by the said Acte of Parliament is appointed, in such proportion as they shall thinke fit, refferinge the surplusage of the money if any bee accordinge to the said Acte of

Parliament.

- 23/02/56 5 Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Say, Colonell Jones and Mr William Smith or any two of them bee desired to treat with Colonell Walton touching Dowsdale Bancke, as also to consider how the tax this day sett may bee appropriated to the severall levells.
- 26/02/56 1 Att Mr Henleyes Chamber in Elme Court in the Middle Temple London
- Mr Gorges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Crane, Mr William Weston, Mr Carill, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr William Smith, Mr Latch, Mr Bradley, Sir Henry Henne, Colonell Samuell Jones
- 26/02/56 2 **[Page 221]** Ordered that the workes in the South Levell now represented to the Company under the handes of Mr Fortrey, Mr Edward Barber and Mr Jonas Moore, bearing date 25th June 1655, bee taken in hand and proceeded in, according as Mr Gorges and Mr St John shall directe and approve of from tyme to tyme
- 26/02/56 3 Upon the view of the severall workes in the North Levell, represented to the Companie by the Earle of Bedford and Mr Gorges, it is ordered that Dowsdale Bancke shall forthwith be repayed.
- 26/02/56 4 Ordered that Horsecroft Bancke in the Middle Levell bee forthwith repayed and amended and the gravells in the River Neane removed and taken away, and that too horse bridges bee set downe in Waldersey receptacle to contynue the old way from Whittlesey to March.
- 26/02/56 5 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr William Smith, Mr Crane and Mr Say, or any two of them, bee desired to attend the Lord Deputy of Ireland to acquaint him that the Companie are very desirous to accommodate any difference betweene him and them, and that if hee pleases they will appointe some members of their owne to meete his agent in the Country for the purpose aforesaid.
- 26/02/56 6 Ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Crane bee desired to attend Mr Chute, now treasurer of the Middle Temple, on the behalfe of the Companie to crave some certaine tyme longer in the chamber, late belonging to Robert Henley Snr deceased, untill the Company bee provided with another chamber or howse for their accomodation. In the meane tyme, it is referred to Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Crane to provide a convenient place for the meetinge of the Companie
- 26/02/56 7 Upon readinge of the proposalls in writinge this day, delivered in to the Company by Mr Hamond Ward for the better preservation of the banckes, bridges, tonnells and dreynes in the Great Levell of the Fennes, it is ordered that the same bee recomended to each conservator in his levell to take the same into their consideration, and in regard Mr Hamond Ward is a person much concerned in the South and Middle Levell, the Companie doe consider him to bee a fitt person to take care from Erith towne to Mepall bridge the banckes on eyther side of the river.
- 26/02/56 8 Ordered that Colonell Samuell Jones bee recomended to the conservator of the South Levell as a fit person to bee agreed with and to take care and preservation of Eariswell Brooke and Brandon River, and it is desired by the Company that all other Adventurers that are concerned would take care of the banckes, dreynes and bridges that are nere to their respective landes.

- 26/02/56 9 Ordered that Mr Gorges and Mr Crane bee desired to attend Mr Henley and his sonnes from the Companie to acquainte them that they purpose to attend Mr Henleyes corps to the grave on Friday next out of theire affection and respects which they bare to him in his life tyme as hee was a member of the Company.
- 26/02/56 10 Ordered that the 1st money that shall come in upon the tax lately sett and made payable 10th of Aprill next shall bee applyed and paid towards the discharge of £500 bond entred into by the Earle of Bedford and others and the £1000 bond entred into by Mr Henley, Mr Bradley and Mr Hamond Ward.
- 26/02/56 11 Ordered that the 10th of March next, between the howers of two and six a clocke in the afternoone, bee a tyme appointed for sale of all defaulters landes in payinge in the foweth payment of the taxes of 5s due 1 February instant att the chamber in Elme Court in the Middle Temple
- 26/02/56 12 Ordered that Anthony Hamond Esqr bee desired to see all the contracts for workes in the South Levell performed and signe bills for payment of the money, upon performance of the contracts, and the Companie will order a sufficient allowance to bee given him for his paynes therein.
- 26/02/56 13 Ordered that it bee referred to Mr Gorges and Mr St John to consider of a gratuity to be given to Mr Barber of Denver (for his paynes and care hee hath taken of the Companies affaires) as they in theire judgement shall thinke fitt.
- 10/03/56 1 Att a meeting in Elme Court att the Chamber late belonging to Mr Henley deceased
William Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr Trenchard, Mr William Smith, Mr Trafford, Mr Land, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Marsham, Mr Godfrey, Mr Hamind Ward, Mr William Hamond, Mr Alderman Underwood, Captain Richard Swan, Mr Arthur Samuell
- 10/03/56 2 **[Page 222]** The Companie, takinge into consideration the order of the 18th February last for auditinge and adjustinge the accounts of the Companie by which order Mr Trenchard and Mr Latch were to make theire report to the Companie of the true state of the said accounts by the 25th March next, now in regard it is alledged there are severall vouchers, acquittances and papers in the Country without sight whereof they cannot bring in a true and exacte estimate in so short a tyme, it is ordered that for the present they would examyn the said accounts upon such vouchers, receipts and payments, as Mr Dalton the receivor can here in towne produce, beginninge from the tyme hee came to bee expendor to the 31st of January last past, and bring in theire report thereof to the Companie, and they shall have further tyme given them to bring in a true and exact state of the accounts to the 21st of June now next ensuinge
- 10/03/56 3 Ordered that 27th of March instant betweene the howers of two and six a clocke in the afternoone bee a tyme appointed for the sale of all defaulters landes at the chamber in Elme Court in the middle
- 13/03/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Trenchard, Mr Alderman Underwood, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Trafford, Mr Adams, Mr Richard Holman, Colonell Blake, Mr Arthur Samuell, Mr Crane, Mr Bladwyn Arthur, Mr Latch, Mr Say, Mr Bland
- 13/03/56 2 Ordered that Arthur Samuell Esqr shall have the same benefit of the order of 26 February last for his £400, as the Earle of Bedford and others have for reimbursinge severall sums of money which they entered bond for the Companies use, to bee paid out of the 1st money that shall bee raised out of the last tax lately sett

- 13/03/56 3 Whereas diverse Adventurers have made their complaintts to the Companie, as well for satisfaction for landes damaged and cut away to banckes, dreynes, forelands and workes in order to the dreyninge the Great Levell, as also for their Adventurer landes not yet diked out from the Country to their great prejudice, for which they have had noe reliefe, it is ordered that Mr Gorges, Mr St John, Mr Trenchard and Mr Latch, of any two of them, upon complaint made to them by any Adventurers or Participants, bee hereby authorized, in their cases, forthwith to give order and direction to any surveyour in pay of the Companie to goe upon the place and take a true survey of the land complaynd of, and thereupon make his certificate to the Companie to the intent they may give reliefe upon any just complaintt, and in perticuler to give order for the speedy diking out of 74 acres lying in Ramsey severalls in the 4th lott, not yet diked out now severed from the Country
- 13/03/56 4 .
Ordered that the petition of Mr Heveringham and the petition of the townes of Hockwold and Wilton bee referred to Mr Hamond and Mr Fortrey on behalfe of the Companie and Arthur Heveringham and John Shadwell Esqr on the behalfe of the petitioners, and they are desired to take the said petitioners into their consideration and compose an ende those differences
- 13/03/56 5 Ordered that the bancke under contracte from the end of Peakirke bancke to the sasse at Crowland bee proceeded in and finished according to contracte and that for the better security of the North Levell, the bancke called Dowsdale Bancke from Dowsdale howse to the south end of Crowland bee repayed and a sufficient banke from there contynued to joyne with Peakirke bance, and the dimentions are left to the conservator of the levells
- 13/03/56 6 Ordered that Colonell Alexander Blake bee desired to put downe in writinge the severall workes as are necessary to bee done in the North Levell and present the same to the Company att their next meetinge.
- 13/03/56 7 **[Page 223]** Upon consideration of the inconveniencing that may bee to the Company in putting in to one hand the power of contractinge, taking up and signinge of warrants for payment of mony for workes which are to bee done this somer in the South Levell, it is ordered that Mr Hamond bee desired to take a view of the perticuler workes intended to be done this somer in the South Levell and, if hee shall finde that they are performed accordinge to severall contracts, whereof hee is to have copies sent him from the conservator, that then his warrant directed to the expendor or his deputy shall bee his sufficient warrant for the money so contracted for, and it is hereby intended that Mr Hamond shall not bee bound to make his personall view of any workes pretended to bee finished till within 10 daies after the conservator of the levell hath signified by writinge otherwise to him, that the severall takers of such a bancke, dreyn, sluice are ready for his view and gaginge of their workes, and that then hee may call to his assistance for the gaginge thereof such officer or officers in the said levell as doe receive sallary from the Companie as hee shall thinke fitt. And if in the meane tyme, before any workes bee absolutely finished, it bee needefull to make one or more payes upon the said worke, which is but sparingly to bee done and in case of necessity onely if the conservator of that levell doe desire Mr Hamond that such a proportion of money bee paid to the takers as hee shall judge shall not amounte to above the 2 parts of three of what they have duly earned upon the said contracte, then upon such intention sent to Mr Hamond in writing, hee shall bee impowered for the tyme past as well as for the tyme to come to grant warrants to the expendor for so much onely as shall bee soe desired although the workes bee not absolutely finished. And concerninge what is fit for the Company to present Mr

Hamond for the paines hee shall take herein, the Companie have referred the consideration thereof to the Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr St John and Mr Chicheley or any three of them.

- 13/03/56 8 Whereas Mr Gorges acquainted the Companie upon a letter received from Gabriell Elliot that there was an interruption of the paies in the Middle Levell for want of takinge up of workes upon performance of the contracts, it is ordered that it bee referred to the Lord Chief Justice St John to give some order and direction therein as his Lordshipp shall thinke fitt, as well for the tyme past as for the tyme to come.
- 13/03/56 9 Ordered that the right honorable the Earle of Bedford who is the conservator of the North Levell bee desired to give his warrants for moneyes upon contracte for workes taken up, as well for the tyme past as for the tyme to come as usually his Lordshipp hath done.
- 13/03/56 10 Whereas it appeareth by Mr Jessops account that hee had five and twenty poundes of Mr Adams in his hands and, since the passinge of his account, the same is paid in to the Companie, it is ordered that the receivor doe forthwith apply the said sum toward the payment of thirty seaven poundes, ten shillings in arrere, and not to apply it to any other taxes, and they are to give acquittancy each to other for the same.
- 14/03/56 1 William Earle of Bedford, Mr St John, Mr Crane, Mr Say, Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Bradley
- 14/03/56 2 Ordered that the Adventurers, or so many of them as are now in towne, bee warned in to meete at the place aforesaid on Monday next at nyne in the forenoone, and the clarke is to take care they may have tymely notice given them.
- 17/03/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Latch, Mr Hamond Ward, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Alexander Jones, Mr Bridges, Mr Godfrey, Captain Blackwall, Mr Marsham, Sir Henry Henne, Mr Chicheley, Mr Crane, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Trenchard, Mr Anthony Samuell Jnr, Mr William Smith, Captain Richard Swann, Mr Bland
- 17/03/56 2 **[Page 224]** Ordered that Mr Gorges bee desired to write a letter to Mr Barber in answer to his received and read over this day touchinge Downham Eau, that it is recomended to the gent below to consider upon the place whether it bee necessary to bee done this yeare or noe and accordingly so the proceede.
- 17/03/56 3 A perticuler in writinge of workes most necessary to bee done this sumer in the North Levell, read over this daie, delivered in to the Company by the Earle of Bedford, received from Colonell Blake, the estimate of the charge whereof amounted to £5339.03.04.
- 17/03/56 4 Ordered that the workes in the North Levell bee proceeded in as followeth.
- That the north banke of Moretons Leame for Knarr Lake up to Northey gravell bee made 60 foote in the seate and nyne foote high
 - That Dowsdale Bancke bee repayred of such dimensions as upon this place shall bee thought fit by such as the right honorable the Earle of Bedford conservator of that levell shall designe to goe upon the place.
 - That the 12 foote dike from Star Nooke to the 18 foote dreyne bee scowred out and cleansed and the drove way to the north bancke lockspitted out.

17/03/56	5	Ordered that out of the tax of 12d an acre due 10th of Aprill next, a thowsand poundes shall bee paid towards the workes in the North Levell this daie ordered to bee done.
17/03/56	6	Ordered that as many Adventurers as shall bring in the tax of 12d an acre due in January next, now before hand to serve the present occasions of the Company shall bee allowed interest for the same after the rate of six poundes in the hundred.
19/03/56	7	Earle of Bedford, Mr Gorges, Mr Crane, Mr Trenchard, Mr Latch, Mr St John, Mr Hallet, Mr Cooke
19/03/56	8	Ordered that Mr Fortrey bee desired to lett out the drove way from Mildenhall to the Owze into Mr Alderman Underwood to bee forthwith proceeded in and effected.
27/03/56	1	Earle of Bedford, Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Crane, Mr Hamond Ward, Captain Blackwall, Mr Marsham, Mr Bland, Mr Alderman Underwood, Andrew Henley Esqr, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Walker, Mr Bradley, Mr Dr Fryer
27/03/56	2	Ordered that the defaulters landes who are yet behinde of taxes which were arrere in Mr Jessops tyme be first exposed to sale, secondly those who are in arrere before this last tax due 1st February last, thirdly those who have paid in lesse then their taxes come to and have not applyed their money, fowerthly those who are behinde for this last tax onely due 1st February last, fifthly those who are behinde in the last tax and stand engaged for more money, sixthly those who have deposited as much money or more then their taxes come unto but have not applyed it, seaventhly those who have paid all but the last tax and have lent the Company more money then their arreres come unto but have not applyed it to taxes, eighthly those who have paid in money upon account of taxes and not applied their money because they want their proportion of land.
27/03/56	3	[Page 225] Ordered upon any sales hereafter to bee made by the Company, the expeditor is to take the penaltie from any stranger or Adventurer accordinge to former order of the Companie and within 8 daies after the contracte to receive the purchase money and in case the same bee not paid in within that tyme, to give the Companie notice thereof, and thereupon the Companie will proceede to a new sale at their next sittinge
27/03/56	4	Memorand that Mr Alderman Underwood does give his consent that out of his money now in the handes of the expeditor, Mr George Dalton shall apply fiftene poundes to the arrere of taxes for 162 acres in the 1st Lot. Provided, if within a month after the date hereof hee can make it appeare that the arrere is already paid then Mr Dalton is to allow it to Mr Alderman Underwood.
27/03/56	5	The like for £14.10.01 which is certified to bee in arrere for 159 acres in the 1st lott under the names of Lieutenantt Colonell Underwood and Myldmay Dowman.
27/03/56	6	Memorand. Mr Andrew Henley doth give his consent that an arrere of £45 upon 400 acres in Methwold in the 2nd lott shall bee cleered out of the money due him from the Companie
27/03/56	7	Ordered that Mr Dalton the expeditor bringe in a true state of the accounts between the Companie and Mr Henley against the next meetinge as it is stated upon Mr Fountaynes report and by the report made by Mr Jessop.

- 27/03/56 8 Whereas by order of 13th of March last Mr Hamond was impowered to signe bills upon contracte for workes done and taken up in the South Levell and also upon intimation in writinge sent to him by Mr Fortrey, conservator of that levell, hee was to grant warrant to the expendor for so much money onely as shall bee desired although the worke was not absolutely finished, now in regard there are arreres upon workes done and contractes performed before the said Mr Fortry was chosen conservator and which are yet unsatisfyed, it is therefore thought fitt and ordered for explayninge and enlarginge the said order that Mr Hamond shall bee and is hereby authorized to signe bills upon contracts for workes done, taken up and in arrere before the tyme Mr Fortrey was chosen conservator by and with his approbation, which bills to the expendor shall bee his warrant for the payment of so much money
- 28/03/56 1 Earle of Bedford Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Trafford, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Alderman Sydney, Mr Walker, Mr Bradley
- 28/03/56 2 Ordered that Mr Gorges and Mr St John bee desired to write a letter to Mr Hamond and Mr Fortrey to acquainte them that the Companie have made choice of them to treat with the Deputie of Irelandes agents in the Countrey to compose and end those differences betweene him and the Companie
- 28/03/56 3 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3 first payments of the tax of 4d an acre due 16 or October 1652, the tax or 7s due 25th April and 15d an acre due the 1st of June and 1st of July 1652 for or in respecte of 400 acres in Westmore north of Bedford River in the 1st Lot, amounting to £44.03.04, now forasmuch as the 100 acres part of the said 400 acres, to bee indifferently set out, were this daie bee exposed to sale and Algernon Sydney, being present and hath offered £100 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Algernon Sydney and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto the said Algernon Sydney, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £44.03.04 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the Company by the said Algernon Sydney, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £55.16.08 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £100 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Algernon Sydney shall have an assurance of the said £120.00.20 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.
- 28/03/56 4 **[Page 226]** Whereas default of payment hath byn made on the tax of 12d an acre due 1st May, 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and 1st October 1653, the tax of 3d and acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the 5s tax imposed the 24th February 1654 for or in respecte of 14 acres in Wickam Comon and severall in the 5th lott and 120 acres in Sutton south of Bedford River next to the Fennes in Haddenham and Wentworth in the same lott, amounting to £45.07.09, now forasmuch as the 134.2.0 acres this daie bee exposed to sale and John Latch Esqr, being present, offered £70 for the said 134.2.0 acres and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 134.2.0 acres unto the said John Latch and his heires to have and to hold the said 134.2.0 acres unto the said John Latch, his heires and assigned, provided that

the said sum of £4.,07.09 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company. and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £24.12.3 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Latch shall have an assurance of the said 134.2.0 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand Mr Latch hath nominated and appointed Mis Sarah Parsons widow to have the assurance of the said 14 acres and 120 acres made unto here and her heires

Memorand the 120.2 acres is to bee conveyed to William Drewry Esqr or such person as hee shall appoint - John Thurloe

- 28/03/56 5 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 12d an acre due 1st February 1653 for or in respecte of 65 acres in three severalls in Well lyinge between Pophams Eau and new dike in the 10th lott, amounting to £3.05.00, now forasmuch as the 65 acres were this daie bee exposed to sale and Robert Charnock, being present, offered £10 for the said 65 acres and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 65 acres unto the said Richard Charnock and his heires to have and to hold the said 65 acres unto the said Richard Charnock, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £4.07.09 bee within a weeke next, after the date hereof, paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage, above and beyond the taxes, beinge £06.00.25 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Robert Charnock shall have an assurance and *put ante*.

Memorand Mr Charnock hath nominated and appointed Sir W.St John, William Jessop Esqr and Mr George Dalton to have the assurance of the said made unto them and their heires.

- 28/03/56 6 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 1s an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st of September and 1st October 1654, and the tax of 3d an acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the 5s tax imposed the 21st February 1654 for or in respecte of 47 acres in Thorney Farme by Stuntney in the 15th lott amounting to £15.17.93, now forasmuch as 20 acre part of the said 150 acres, to bee indifferently set out, were this daie bee exposed to sale and Robert Charnock, being present, offered £30 for the said 20 acres and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 20 acres unto the said Robert Charnock and his heires to have and to hold the said 20 acres unto the said Robert Charnock, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £15.17.03 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes beinge £14.2.09 is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said **[Page 227]** Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £15.07.03 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said

Robert Charnock shall have an assurance of the said 150 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

- 03/04/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Mr Alderman Sydney, Mr Latch, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Trafford, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Cooke, Mr John Russell, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr Henshaw, Mr Trenchard
- 03/04/56 2 Ordered that Mr Elliott bee desired to goe upon the place and make true survey of the 1000 acres in Byall Fen north of Bedford River and peticulerly whether the 500 acres the moytie thereof, belonginge to Colonell Sydney, doth hold out in quantity or noe with the other moytie and, if upon his survey it appears it doth not, then to supply the same by takinge land next adjoyninge, and Mr Latch and Mr Trenchard in pursuance of an order of the Companie of 13th March 1655 are desired to directe that the same may bee done accordingly
- 03/04/56 3 Whereas the Lordes and others appointed Comissioners by the late Act of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes att their last sittinge in the Middle Temple Hall, upon the petition of the Country did order and decree that the 44 acres 3 rods of land, which by the Comission of Sewers att St Ives in the 13 yeare of the late Kinge were sett out and allotted unto the Adventurers in the Hodden Fenn of or belonginge unto Wickin, should in regard to the unequall and inconvenient lyinge of it in that place bee altered and exchanged from thence and the like proportion of land in lieu thereof to bee taken for the Adventurers out of another comon lyinge in Wickin aforesaid called Little Hordey. And whereas the said Lordes and other Comissioners aforesaid, notwithstandinge other petitions of the Country for alterations and exchanges, did order and decree that the Adventurers should hold and enjoy the 175 acres in Sutton Meadlands and the 112 acres in Waterbeach Fenn by Garden Tree as the same were set out and allotted unto them by the said Comission of Sewers in the said 13th yeare of the late Kinge and that the Country should no longer deteyne the possession thereof under colour of unequall settinge out as by the said severall orders doth appeare, and forasmuch as Mr Latch on the behalfe of Mr Bridgeman, Mr Nutley and Mr Parsons, who are principally concerned and interested in the said severall proportions of land, hath offered unto the Companie, in regard of the manifold occasions they have at present for disbursing of great sums of money about perfectinge of the publique workes of dreyninge, that hee will prevaile with the said Mr Bridgeman, Mr Nutley and Mr Parsons or one of them to issue out and paie so much money as shall bee needefull for the makinge of the out ring dikes for the dreyninge of the said severall proportions of land from the Country and conveyinge the downfall to its proper outfall in such manner as Mr Fortrey or the conservator of the South Levell for the tyme beinge, or whome hee shall thereunto appointe so as there bee an order made that the expeditor, shall allow the money so disbursed unto the said Mr Bridgeman, Mr Nutley and Mr Parsons or some or one of them, which offer at this tyme beinge acceptable to the Company, they doe thereupon desire and impower the said Mr Bridgemen, Mr Nutley and Mr Parsons or eyther of them to procure the said severall proportions of landes, accordinge to the Lord Comissioners order, to bee diked out and devided from the Country accordingly. And the Company doe order that the receivor or expeditor shall allow the money thereabouts disbursed out of the future and growinge taxes as shall hence forward become due from the said Mr Bridgeman, Mr Nutley and Mr Parsons and for his so doing, this order shall bee sufficient without any other warrant. And the Company doe further order that any Participant of Adventurer that shall in the like case disburse money for makinge the out ring to his or their lande shall also bee allowed the money so disbursed out of their respective future and growinge taxes as aforesaid.

- 03/04/56 4 **[Page 228]** Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the tax of 3d an acre due 20th August 1653, the tax of 12d an acre due 1st February 1653, 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st June 1654, 18d an acre due 1st September and 1st October 1654, 3d an acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the 5s tax imposed the 21st February 1654 due 1st March, 1st June, 1st September and 1st February last past for or in respecte of 27.1.0 acres called Marmions, a severall in Upwell in the 18th lott, amounting to £13.07.07, now forasmuch as the 27.1.0 acres this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr George Dalton, being present, offered £38 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase of the said 27.1.0 acres, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 27.1.0 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 27.1.0 acres unto the said George Dalton his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £13.07.07 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage above and beyond the taxes, beinge £24.12.04, is to bee restored to the right owner accordinge to the said Acte of Parliament, otherwise this order of order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said £38 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said George Dalton shall have an assurance of the said £127.1.0 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and theire heires.
- Memorand the said John Latch nominated and appointed Sarah Parsons widow to have an to hold an assurance of the said 40 acres made unto here and her heires.
- 03/04/56 5 Ordered that Mr Trenchard and Mr Latch bee desired to examyn the accounts now stated by Mr Dalton betweene the Companie and Mr Henley and make theire report to the Companie how they finde the same. In the meane tyme, they declared that noe prejudice shall redownd to Mr Henley touchinge the land for any arrere.
- 03/04/56 6 Ordered that the Companie doe accept of Mr Henleyes offer of his howse for the meetinges of the Company and will allow a certaine rent for the same or any part thereof
- 03/04/56 p.m 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Andrew Henley, Mr Latch, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henshaw, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Trafford, Mr Edward Sadler
- 03/04/56 p.m 2 **[Page 229]** Whereas default of payment hath byn made of [] for, or in respecte of, 1057 acres in the 6th, 7th and 15th lotts that is to say Methwold and D 400 acres Towne Moores and H 200 acres, the other moytie of 400 acres in Methwold and E 200 acres, part of 357 acres in Methwold Severall, 227 acres lyinge on the north east side of a dreyne called Sams his Cut and 30 acres in the south west side thereof, amounting to £32, now forasmuch as the 30 acres lyinge of the sout west side of Sams his Cut were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Hopkinson, being present, offered £32 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase of the said 30 acres the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 30 acres unto the said John Hopkinson and his heires to have and to hold the said 30 acres unto the said John Hopkinson, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £32 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company this sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 30 acres

from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoint to his and their heires.

Memorand that the said John Hopkinson hath nominated and appointed Mr John Barnwell to have an assurance fo the said 30 acres made unto him and his heires.

- 03/04/56 p.m 3 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of 2d an acre due 20th August 1653, 12d an acre due 1st February 1653, 12d an acre due 1st May and 1st of June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and 1st October 1654, 3d an acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due 1st March, 1st June, 1st September and 21st February last past, for or in respecte of land in the 8th, 13th and 18th lotts, amountinge to 422 acres, now forasmuch as the 300 acres in Middlemore and 200 acres in Horsemore Comon in 18th lott parcell of the said land were this daie bee exposed to sale and George Dalton, being present, offered £450 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase of the said 500 acres, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 500 acres unto the said George Dalton and his heires to have and to hold the said 30 acres unto the said George Dalton, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £424 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the Company, and the surplusage over and above the taxes being £28 is to bee restored to the right owner according to the said Acte of Parliament or else this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £45 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said George Dalton shall have an assurance of the said 30 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand Mr Dalton hath nominated and appointed Mr William Salisbury to have the assurance of the said 500 acres made unto him and his heires.

- 03/04/56 p.m 4 Upon readinge of Colonell Blakes letter touchinge Dowsdale bancke, wherein hee desires to know the sence of the Companie, whether or noe they will in the makinge of the said bancke take in the towne of Crowland or leave out the said towne and with all that it would bee a £100 more expence and charge the Companie to include the towne, the Companie hereby thinke fitt and order that the said Dowsdale Banke shall be so carryed on and made as it make take in the said towne of Crowland, and the Companie doe conceive that the best way in carryinge on the said bancke is to make it on Thorney side as Colonell Blake in his letter hath represented.

- 03/04/56 p.m 5 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of parte of a tax of 12d due 1st May and 1st of June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and 1st October 1654, 3d an acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the tax of 5s an acre due 1st March 1654, 1st June 1655 and an arrere parte of the dividends according to Mr Daltons account upon the 406 acres late belonging to Mr Coney, for or in respecte of 50 acres in Westmore south of Bedford River in the 6th lott, amountinge to £34.13.06, forasmuch as the 30 part of 50 acres, to bee indifferently sett out, were this daie exposed to sale and John Hopkinson, being present, offered £34.13.06 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the said 30 acres on the day of the date hereof, the same being a daie appointed for the sale thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 30 acres unto the said John Hopkinson and

his heires to have and to hold the said 30 acres unto the said John Hopkinson, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £34.12.06 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 30 acres from the [Page 230] Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand the said John Hopkinson hath nominated and appointed Mr John Barwell to have an assurance of the said 30 acres made unto him and his heires

- 03/04/56 p.m 6 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of parte of a tax of 12d due 1st May and 1st of June 1654, the tax of 18d an acre due 1st September and 1st October 1654, 3d an acre due 1st November 1654 and the 4 first payments of the tax of five shillings an acre due 1st March 1654, 1st June 1655, and an arrere parte of the dividends according to Mr Daltons account upon the 406 acres late belonging to Mr Coney for and or in respecte of 156 acres in Dikamore next West Water in the 6th lott, amountinge to £44.17.00, forasmuch as 50 acres, to bee indifferently sett out of the said 156 acres, were this daie bee exposed to sale and John Hopkinson being present offered £52 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the said 50 acres on the day of the date hereof, the same being a daie appointed for the sale thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 50 acres unto the said John Hopkinson and his heires to have and to hold the said 50 acres unto the said John Hopkinson, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £44.17.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage over and above the taxes being £7.03.00 is to bee restored to the right owner or else this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £52 in manner as aforesaid, hee the said John Hopkinson shall have an assurance of the said 50 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heires.

Memorand the said John Hopkinson hath nominated Mr John Barwell to have the assurance of the said 50 acres made unto him and his heires

- 03/04/56 p.m 7 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 3rd and 4th payments of the tax of five shillings an acre set and imposed 21st February 1654 due 1st September and 1st February last past for, or in respecte of, 1244 acres in the 19th lott and 6 acres in the 11th lott ammountinge to £125, forasmuch as 100 part of 375 acres in Middlemore Ramsey and in the 19th lott, to bee indifferently sett out, were this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr Robert Charnock, being present, offered £125 for the said 100 acres and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 100 acres unto the said Robert Charnock and his heires to have and to hold the said 100 acres unto the said John Charnock, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £125 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, otherwise this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered upon payment of the said sum, in manner aforesaid, hee the said John Charnock shall have an assurance of the said 100 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall

nominate or appoints to his and their heirs.

Memorandum the said Mr Robert Charnock hath nominated William Salisbury of London gent to have the assurance of the said 100 acres made unto him and his heirs

- 04/04/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Marsham, Mr Trenchard, Colonel Algernon Sydney, Mr Alderman Underwood, Mr B.Henshaw, Mr Latch
- 04/04/56 2 Whereas there is an arreare of £64.4.10 due and owing to the Company for or in respect of 1244 acres in the 19th lott and 6 acres in the 11th lott amounting to £12, forasmuch as 601 acres, to be indifferently sett out of the said 60 acres, were this daie be exposed to sale and Major Styles, being present, offered £63.04.10 for the said 601 acres and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it being their propounded and none offering more for the purchase thereof, the Company, by vertue and according to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell **[Page 231]** the said 60 acres unto the said Major Styles and his heirs to have and to hold the said 60 acres unto the said Major Styles, his heirs and assigned, provided that the said sum of £64.04.10 be within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receiver of the Company, otherwise this order of sale be void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum in manner aforesaid, hee the said Major Styles shall have an assurance of the said 60 acres from the Company made unto him and his heirs or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and their heirs.
- 05/05/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Colonel Algernon Sydney, Mr Trenchard, Mr Latch, Mr Dr Fryer
- 05/05/56 2 Ordered that the messenger doe warne in all the Adventurers that are now in towne against Tuesdaie next betweene eight and nyne a clocke in the forenoone and give them notice that it is a peremptory daie appointed for the sale of all defaulters landes in paying in their taxes
- 06/05/56 1 Earle of Bedford, Sir Gilbert Gerard, Mr Marsham, Mr Trenchard, Mr Henshaw, Mr Dr Fryer, Mr Chicheley, Mr Latch, Mr Henry Henn, Mr Hampson, Mr Page, Mr Hallit
- Whereas by order of the 1st February 1653, 500 acres in Glatton and Holme Fenne were lett to Mr Fountayne for £150 per annum for 3 yeares, beginning the 25th of March 1654, which land was formerly in the possession of Robert Henley Esqr deceased and hee was to be accountable to the Company for the meane proffitts thereof till Mr Fountaynes lease did comence, which interest of Mr Fountayne afterwards came to the said Robert Henley, since which tyme the Company on 25th November 1654 did make an exchange (with Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges) of 171 acres in Over Comon and 300 acres in Wickin Sedge Fenn for the said possession is accountable for the rent, his sonne being now the present tenant, it is ordered that the 1st halfe yeares rent, beginninge 25th March 1654, together with the meane proffitts of the said landes before the lease made to Mr Fountayne. be paid and allowed to George Dalton, the receiver, for the use of the Company and the rest, which is one yeare and a halfe, to be paid to the said Sir Gilbert Gerard and Mr Bridges, and it is further ordered that the said George Dalton shall apply so much of Mr Henleys money in his handes to the use of the Company as shall be due unto them for the meane proffitts of the said land and the 1st halfe yeares rent as aforesaid
- 06/05/56 2 Whereas diverse Adventurers have deposited with Mr Dalton, the receiver, lesse money then their taxes come unto and have not applied their money to their

respective landes, it is now ordered that for the present the Companie will sell onely such a proportion of his or theire respective landes as the mony deposited will not extend unto but, in case the parties shall withdraw any part of the money soe deposited, they will hereafter proceede to a further sale

- 06/05/56 3 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of [] for and or in respecte of 97 acres part of 115 acres in Ladies fen B in the 3rd lott, amountinge to £19.08.00, now forasmuch, as to bee indifferently sett out of the 97 acres, were this daie bee exposed to sale and Mr Benjamyn Henshaw offered £21 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the said 20 acres, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 20 acres unto the said Benjamyn Henshaw and his heires to have and to hold the said 20 acres unto **[Page 232]** the said Benjamyn Henshaw, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £19.08.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the Receivor of the Company, and the surplusage over and above the taxes, being £01.12.00, is to be restored to the right owner, otherwise this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said £21, in manner aforesaid, hee the said Benjamyn Henshaw shall have an assurance of the said 20 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoints to his and theire heires.

Memorand. Noe conveyance beinge yet passed of the said twenty acres, I doe reliquish the said sale unto the right owner Mr Joseph Peters who is to enjoy the same as formerly by witnes my hand

- 06/05/56 4 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of parte of a tax of the 3rd and 4th payment of the tax of 5s an acre set and imposed the 21st February 1654, due 1st September and 1st February last past for or in respecte of 295 acres in Lakenheath and P in 16th lott, amountinge to £29.10.00, now forasmuch as 31 acre parcell of the said 295 acres, to bee indifferently sett out, were this daie bee exposed to sale and Benjamyn Henshaw, being present, offered £32 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed too pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge theire propounded and none offeringe more for the said 31 acres on the day of the date hereof, the same being a daie appointed for the sale thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 31 acres unto the said Benamyn Henshaw and his heires to have and to hold the said 31 acres unto the said Benamyn Henshaw, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £29.10.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof bee paid into the receivor of the Company, and the surplusage, over and above the taxes, being £1.10.0, is to bee restored to the right owner or else this order of sale bee void, and it is further ordered, upon payment of the said sum of £32, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said Benamyn Henshaw shall have an assurance of the said 31 acres from the Companie made unto him and his heires or unto such person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoint to his and theire heires.

Memorand noe conveyance yet passed of the said 31 acres unto mee, I doe relinquish the said sale unto the right owner John Gobson witnes my hand

- 06/05/56 5 Whereas default of payment hath byn made of parte of a tax of the 4th payment of the tax of 5s an acre set and imposed the 21st February 1654 due and payable 1st February last past for or in respecte of 125 acres in Easymore in the 3rd lott, amountinge to the sum of £6.05.00, now forasmuch as 7 acres, to bee indifferently

sett out of the said 125 acres, were amongst diverse other landes, hereafter following, exposed to sale and Mr William Salisbury being present offered £7 for the purchase thereof and hath agreed to pay all future taxes growing due for the same, in consideration whereof and forasmuch as it beinge their propounded and none offeringe more for the purchase thereof, the Companie, by vertue and accordinge to the power given unto them by the Acte of Parliament for dreyninge the Great Levell of the Fennes, doe now hereby sell the said 7 acres unto the said William Salisbury and his heires to have and to hold the said 7 acres unto the said William Salisbury, his heires and assigned, provided that the said sum of £06.05.00 bee within a weeke next after the date hereof paid into the receivor of the Company and the surplusage over and above the taxes, being 15s, is to bee restored to the right owner or else this order of sale bee void.

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| 06/05/56 | 6 | And whereas default of payment hath byn made of the 4th payment of the tax of 5s an acre due and payable the 1st February last past for, or in respecte of, 29 acres in Norwold Comon by Stoake, north of Wissey in the 8th lott, amountinge to £01.09.00, now forasmuch as 2 acres, to bee indifferently sett out of the said 29 acres, were this daie to sale and Mr William Salisbury offered £2 for the purchase thereof and the Companie doe hereby sell the said 2 acres unto him and his heires to have and to hold the said 2 acres unto the him the said William Salisbury, his heires and assigned, provided that the said £01.09.00 bee within a weeke next to bee paid the Company and the surplusage, being 11s, is to bee restored to the right owner . |
| 06/05/56 | 7 | And whereas 23 acres part of 333 acres in Somersham Comon in the 12th lott were exposed to sale for £22.05.00 in arreres and the said Mr William Salisbury offered £33 for the purchase thereof put, the taxse beinge £22.05.00, is to bee within a weeke paid into to the receivor of the Companie, and the surplusage over and above the taxes being 15s is to bee restored to the right owner . |
| 06/05/56 | 8 | And whereas 15 acres parte of 300 acres parcell of 500 acres in Warboys B in the 10th lott were exposed to sale for £15 an arrere and the said William Salisbury offered £15 for the purchase thereof, whereupon the said 15 acres were sold, and [Page 233] where 15 acres in Hilgay and Southery Comons of parcell of 300 acres in the 10th lott were exposed to sale for £15 in arrere and the said William Saisbury offered £15 for the purchase thereof, whereupon the said 15 acres were sold. |
| 06/05/56 | 9 | And whereas 4 acres, to be indifferently set out of 250 acres in Elme Comon and severalls in the 12th lott, were exposed to sale for £3.15.00 arrere and the said William Salisbury offered £4 for the purchase thereof, whereupon the said 4 acres are hereby sold put, taxes, beinge £03.15.00, is to bee paid in to the receivor of the Company within a weeke and the surplusage over and above the taxes being 5s is to bee restored to the right owner |
| 06/05/56 | 10 | Whereas 110 acres parte of 425 acres in Stoney Fenn Severall C in the 16th lott were also exposed to sale for £100.09.06 in arrere and the said William Salisbury offered £110 for the said 110 acres whereupon the said 110 acres are hereby sold put, the taxes, beinge £100.09.06, is to bee paid in to the receivor of the Companie within a weeke and the surplusage over and above the taxes beinge £09.10.6 is to bee restored to the right owner. |
| 06/05/56 | 11 | And whereas 20 acre parte of 100 acres parcell of 357 acres on the south west side of Sams his Cut in the 15th lott were exposed to sale for £20 and the said William Salisbury offered £20 for the purchase thereof, whereupon the said 20 acres are hereby sold put. |

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| 06/05/56 | 12 | And it is ordered upon payment of the severall sums of money for the purchase of the respective landes about mentioned, in manner as aforesaid, hee the said William Salisbury shall have assurance of the said perticuler landes from the Company made unto him and his heires or unto such other person or persons as hee shall nominate or appoint and to his and their heires |
| 06/05/56 p.m | 1 | Sir Gilbert Gernard, Mr Trenchard, Mr Latch, Colonell William Weston, Mr B.Arthur, Mr Bradley |
| 06/05/56 p.m | 2 | The Companie, takinge into consideration the last letter from Colonell Blake to the right honorable Earle of Bedford touching Dowsdale Banke, it is ordered that his Lordshipp bee desired to write a letter to Colonell Blake to treat with the inhabitants if the towne of Crowland and to acquainte them that the Company are willinge to make Dowsdale Bancke and carry on the same so as it may take in and include the said towne of Crowland provided that the said inhabitants give their consent to the takinge up the sasse at Crowland, and because the Company are resolved to serve themselves, excluding both the towne and sasse, and that his Lordshipp write effectually for the speedie setting on the said Dowsdale bancke and whereas £1000 is designed for that purpose, the Companie will take care it shall from tyme to tyme bee provided. And with all that his Lorshipp would also write to the said Colonell Blake to provide a sufficient proportion of grownd may bee sett out for seate of the said bancke and foreland for they are doubtfull whether or noe that quantity already sett out and mentioned in his letter will bee satisfied. |